

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 21.

SEPTEMBER, 1896.

No. 9

THE Cleveland Conference, in point of numbers as in many other respects, was the most successful which the American Library Association has yet held. That more than 300 out of 500 members of a national association, whose membership is scattered over the whole country, should gather at its annual convention—giving a three-fifths majority present—is almost unprecedented in the history of such associations, and fitly represents the enthusiasm of librarians in their devotion to their chosen calling and to the national association in which it is organized. At this rate of growth what the Association will be with the dawn of the 20th century it is difficult to prophesy.

THE president's address struck an unusual note in presenting "the other side" from that usually brought to the front—the discouragements of librarians and the seamy side of the relation of the library to the community. Mr. Dana's incisive and characteristic paper gave many librarians present the feeling that he must have visited their own respective libraries in Asmodean guise and overheard not only the thoughts of the critics of the library, but their own unexpressed misgivings. It was, perhaps, unfortunate that this note should be struck in the opening address, partly because it was not a tone of inspiration for the meeting and partly because the press is apt to print the president's address, and especially the early part of it, as representative of the spirit of the Association and of the proceedings of its meeting. But the paper itself was a clear-cut and wholesome presentation of "the other side," such as few other than Mr. Dana could so succinctly and interestingly present. Mr. Larned's paper, following the president's address, was the most striking single feature of the Conference, and won exceptional applause for its scholarly tone and workmanship. It struck the same note as Mr. Dana's, but changed at the close from the minor into the major key and was a direct inspiration to all who heard it. Its relation to library interests was large rather than specific, but its reception was extremely significant as showing the tone of the Association and the appreciation of scholarly work on the part of its members.

ONE of the notable features of the Conference was the amount of work that it was found possible to pack within the compass of three days, and the steady attention that all present paid to business. Therefore the post-conference, when it came, was doubly welcome, adding the charm of social intercourse and personal acquaintance to what might otherwise have been too strictly a business meeting. The trip itself was a delightful one; including, as it did, a day at Detroit, where the public library was the most cordial and lavish of hosts, a sail through the St. Clair Flats, Sunday on the lake, and two days at Mackinac, the most beautiful of islands. But in addition to the pleasure of new surroundings, ever-changing natural beauties, and the delights of good company, the A. L. A. post-conference trips have a value that is distinctly professional and that make them about the best investment possible to the librarian who would broaden his views and bring his library more in touch with modern methods. In the rush of constant meetings and steady attendance at the Conference proper, much individual personal exchange of opinions, suggestions, and experiences is well-nigh impossible. This need is met by the post-conference, which furnishes a constant series of "experience meetings" on library subjects, gives the Maine librarian a chance to compare notes with his *confrère* or *consueur* from California, and is, in itself, a course in comparative library methods. Librarians, it is well known, take their holidays in visiting other libraries, and even in the most frivolous of their holiday-making—and it is said that A. L. A. trips are frequently distinctly frivolous—the curious observer may note with interest the omnipresence of the ruling passion, that like Banquo will not down.

PERHAPS the most novel incident of the Cleveland Conference was the critical inquest on the books of the last five years, held, with Miss Cutler as coroner, in connection with the report on the A. L. A. Catalog supplement. Heretofore, the Association has in its meetings restricted itself to the general principles of criticism and selection of books; this session was arranged to discuss the merits and demerits of individual

books, with the primary intention of eliciting certain definite principles by which young or inexperienced librarians might be guided in their own work. Certainly, librarians do need to be more generally and thoroughly trained in appreciative criticism—the original list of the “best” books of 1895, compiled from the votes of librarians, and issued by the New York State Library last March, was decisive proof of that fact. A regular A. L. A. session devoted to general book-talk ought, therefore, to be a helpful feature of future conferences.

MISS CUTLER's experiment was as entertaining as it was novel. In special divisions, as History, Science, Sociology, etc., the brisk fire of criticism and analysis was thoroughly suggestive, though here the condemnation of “popular” books by those who find good only in “too, too solid flesh” had to be taken into account. The department of Fiction was, of course, the most entertaining, offering the widest field for varying opinions. It was, too, the least practically useful, for calm, critical analysis was out of the question, the most vigorous speaker swayed the minds of the assembly, and the verdicts rendered savored of “snap” judgments. To submit the question of the admissibility of George Meredith's novels to a hasty show of hands in such a meeting was rather an absurd proceeding and hardly consistent with the dignity of the Association. Indeed, the fiction question, while it is one of the most important of library problems, cannot be treated wisely or fairly in a mass-meeting. The weakness of the critical session lay in the impossibility of obtaining general calm, and well-considered judgment; its strength lay in the importance of the subject and in the abiding interest that book discussion awakens. It introduced into the A. L. A. program a new element, which is capable of helpful influence and wide expansion.

THE “Cumulative index to periodicals,” issued by Mr. Brett, of the Cleveland Library, has now reached its third number and is proving the best thing of its kind which has yet been offered for library use. The Cleveland Library is performing this service at considerable cost to itself, as it takes the time of three assistants, in addition to Mr. Brett's personal oversight, and out of the \$2000 it is estimated it will cost for actual manufacture each year, only about \$500 has been pledged in subscriptions from outside libraries. This out-

lay could scarcely be afforded permanently by any one library, especially one supported at the public expense, and every library which can afford the \$5 should come to the support of this enterprise. It does not attempt to index as many periodicals as Poole's Index, but, on the other hand, such indexing as it covers, it does more thoroughly, by author, title, and subject, and it has an immediate use which the yearly and five-yearly publications cannot lay claim to. The difficulty in doing so good a thing as this—for good things often mean cost in proportion to their quality—has always been the considerable outlay and the considerable loss involved—which was one of the causes leading to the consolidation of the old monthly and quarterly index issued from this office into the annual. But we hope this monthly index can be continued and that it will not render impossible the continuance also of the publication of the “Annual literary index.” This is, of course, the one danger, but we hope there are enough libraries in the country able to take in each to make the support of both possible.

Communications.

THE NEW PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

I REGRET that your exceedingly appreciative comment on the complete design for our new building should have attributed to our study of practical details, among other good qualities, that of originality. I may frankly say that neither the architect nor I had set this ideal before our minds, but that on the contrary we aimed to embody as many as possible of the good ideas already represented in other library buildings. Necessarily, of course, the particular form in which they were worked out in this building may have had an originality of its own. As regards the two details specifically mentioned in the LIBRARY JOURNAL's comment (p. 357)—the “dark room” and the “dictating room”—the former is by no means novel (as may be seen at Boston and Worcester), and while I am at this moment unable to recall having seen the latter in any other library plan, it would not in the least surprise me to find it in one.

Let me take this occasion, also, to state that, in response to a request of mine to be informed of any other libraries (in addition to those named on p. 225 of the May LIBRARY JOURNAL) who are using, in any form, the “A. L. A. classification,” the following two libraries only have been reported to me as belonging in the list: Lancaster Town Library, Lancaster, Mass., and the Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The Bigelow Free Public Library, at Clinton, Mass., also uses a classification based more remotely upon it.

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,
PROVIDENCE.

REPLACEMENTS.

BY BERNARD C. STEINER and SAMUEL H. RANCK, *The Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.*

THE method of replacing books, whether removed from the library by loss, wear and tear, or other cause, is one of no little importance in a library of large circulation. It is believed that a paper on this subject may be timely to the readers of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, especially since a search through the 20 bound volumes of the JOURNAL discloses no reference to the subject as such. The question has been referred to in discussions on accessions, but only incidentally. The bibliography of accessions is a part of the paper on the "Accession department," at the World's Library Congress, Chicago, 1893, by Mr. Gardner M. Jones, of the Salem (Mass.) Public Library. (Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1892-93, 1:809-826.)

This study of "replacements" was begun, primarily, with reference to the work in The Enoch Pratt Free Library. We sent a circular letter to about 75 libraries whose circulation is such as to make replacements a matter of some importance in the work of the library. Replies were received from 62; and while the methods of these libraries differ most widely, they may be considered, in a general way, under the following headings:

1. The replaced book receives a new accession number.
2. The replaced book receives the old accession number.
3. No accession book or numbers are used.
4. The accession book and numbers in use differ from the general understanding of those terms.

1. NEW ACCESSION NUMBER:

37 libraries accession all replaced books the same as new ones. This is in line with the rules of the "A. L. A. Accession book." After the book is accessioned methods differ most widely. We shall let each library describe its own way of treating these books. It is worthy of notice that different libraries use different names for the same thing to an unusual degree, in speaking of the various phases of this question.

Banger (Me.) Public Library:

"Our method in replacing books is to record the new book on the accession record, giving it a new accession number, but using the old shelf number. The old accession number is recorded

in the 'removal record,' with cause for removal. The 'removal record' is ruled for the different items to be noted in recording its removal. Books removed, for whatever cause, are 'dead,' and their accession numbers are *never* used for another book. Our shelf catalogs are those sold by the Library Bureau, and when any book is removed a line in red ink is drawn through the accession number."

Boston (Mass.) Athenæum:

"We have comparatively few replacements to deal with, and so our system is not as carefully developed as it would be if the question were a larger one with us.

"1. When a book is worn out, if it is not to be replaced, the cards are taken from the card catalog and cancelled, but not destroyed. The entry on the shelf-list is cancelled, and a record is made in a register of books exchanged, sold, worn out, or in any way parted with; but no record is made in the accession book.

"2. If the book is replaced by a new copy no change on the shelf-list is required, unless the imprint is different, and no change on the cards, unless the book is of a different edition from the old copy. The same entry as in the first case is made on the register of books parted with, and the new copy is entered on the accession book, but no entry is made against the entry of the old copy. On the back of the author card, where we always place the accession number and date of receipt, note is made of the accession number and date of receipt of the new copy.

"3. When a book has been lost and is replaced at the expense of the loser no record is made on the register of books parted with, but the process in other respects is the same."

Bridgeport (Ct.) Public Library:

"When a book is purchased to replace one lost or worn out, it is the present practice of this library to give the new book a new accession number, though we give it the shelf number of the book it replaces.

"Our method is not wholly satisfactory, but we have never been able to find or devise a better one."

Brookline (Mass.) Public Library:

"In replacing withdrawn books we give the new copy a new accession number, stating in the accession catalog that it is a replaced book. The replaced book is given the same shelf number as the original copy. In case the new copy is a different edition the imprint is changed in the catalog, otherwise the cards are left untouched. We keep a record of all books withdrawn and of the date when each is replaced."

Buffalo (N. Y.) Library:

"In the case of new copies bought to replace books lost or injured and paid for by readers, the old book and accession numbers are retained, as the replacement does not affect the financial

record of the library. If the new book is not of the same edition as the old the shelf-list is made to conform to the new edition. In all other cases the new copies are newly accessioned, 'To replace' being written in the 'remarks' column of the register. They receive the book numbers of the books they replace.

"Our library, which uses the Dewey classification, differs from many in having a complete shelf-list of books and pamphlets on cards, each card containing the full entry of one book or set of books, the cards of each section being followed by many cross-references. The whole constitutes our subject-catalog and is open to the use of the public. It is supplemented by an author-and-title and topic catalog arranged on the dictionary plan, but consisting of brief entries only, and by a book of statistics containing full statistics of the number of volumes, pamphlets, etc., in each class.

"In replacing lost and worn-out books we make no change in the author and title catalog, which is merely a directory to the shelves. But a new or different edition is shown by altering or rewriting the subject card (shelf-list), which also receives the new accession number. If a book is not easily replaced the number is held for it in the book of statistics, in order that the author-and-title catalog and printed finding list may still guide to it. If the book is not to be replaced its number is assigned to a newly added book."

Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny, Pa.:

"We follow strictly the rule given in the 'A. L. A. Accession book,' 'Never assign the same accession number to another volume.' We keep a list of withdrawn books."

Chicago (Ill.) Public Library:

"Worn-out and soiled books are condemned, and for each book a slip is written. These slips are arranged in the order of the shelf number, and kept in regular catalog trays. At the end of each month, in compiling the statistics of the month's work, etc., the number of books condemned is deducted from the total number of volumes in the library. From time to time we copy the titles of those books which we wish to replace, and reorder them. When received they are entered in the accession catalog, and, having been deducted when condemned, they are counted as new accessions. It is not necessary to recatalog them, except in case of new editions. After the books are accessioned, the accession number is written on the 'condemned' card, the date when replaced is stamped on the card, and the card is then placed in a catalog case, which shows in shelf-list order a complete record of all books, worn out, lost and paid for, and missing, which have been replaced since the library was organized. Our wear and tear now amounts to about 4000 volumes per year. Our catalog of worn-out books which have not been replaced contains at present about 8000 slips. Some of these are books out of print, and many are novels which have outgrown their popularity and which need not be replaced."

Concord (Mass.) Free Public Library:

"In making 'replacements' we use a new ac-

cession number, but usually give the books the same shelf number that the worn-out books had. We consider the new accession number to be very desirable, otherwise a book bearing 1895 on its title-page may be found in the accession catalog with the books added in 1880, or Dickens's 'Pickwick papers' in two volumes may be bought to replace a one-volume edition. We like to retain the old shelf numbers on account of the printed catalogs. We make out new cards for 'replaced books,' just the same as for new books, as we consider it less work to do that and put the new cards into the drawers as we pick out the old ones, than to pick out the old cards, make the necessary changes of date and accession number on each, and then to replace them in the drawers. In our accession catalog, against each worn-out book, we make a note that it is worn-out, and when; then, in a small blank-book, kept always with the accession catalog, we keep a list of the accession numbers of worn-out books and a running account of the variation of the accession number and the real number."

Denver (Colo.) City Library:

"The replaced book is treated as an entirely new work, entered in order in the accession book, given a new shelf-mark (that is, one that distinguishes it from any other copy of the same work). The accession number is placed on the author card in the card catalog. The worn-out book, when properly stamped, is entered in the condemned book list."

Denver (Colo.) Public Library:

"The book-card, bearing the same number as the book, is taken from the pocket and the accession number of the book is written thereon in blue pencil. These cards are then arranged according to shelf number and compared with the shelf sheet. If everything is all right, the accession number is crossed off the shelf sheet with red ink. The cards are then arranged according to accession number and in the 'remarks column' of the accession book the letters w. o. (worn out) are written, followed by the date. At the time the book is checked off the shelf sheet an order card is written for the benefit of the order department. The book cards are then arranged once more according to the call number and filed away with similar records. When the new book that is to replace the worn-out copy arrives, it goes through the same process of accessioning as any other book. The accession number of this new book is then written in red ink immediately above the accession number of the copy which it replaces, and it is then given the call number of the original book. When the call number is entered on the accession book a note is made in the 'remarks column' to the effect that it replaces such and such an accession number. The accession number is always looked up and an entry is made stating that it is replaced by the accession number of the new copy.

"We are not altogether sure that our method is the best. However, it seems to work fairly well. It leaves the card catalog undisturbed, though occasioning changes in the shelf sheet."

Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, Vt.:

"We generally enter the new book on the catalog of accessions, as it is usually a new edition or has a new date on the title-page; but we always give it the same shelf number, even if a different edition, for convenience in consulting the catalog. We mark on shelf-list, *rem. date*, — *rep. date*, removed and replaced, and write in the accession number — rather unsightly and cumbersome, but it preserves the statistics for reference, if necessary."

Grand Rapids (Mich.) Public Library:

"When a book is discarded, the book, book slip, and accession book are marked *discarded*, and the cards are taken from the card catalog and a list made of them. As soon as possible, books are purchased to take their places and they are entered in the accession book and shelf-list, keeping the old shelf number, except that a letter is added to the shelf number to indicate that the book is a duplicate. The cards are then returned to the catalog. A replaced book is given a new accession number."

Hartford (Conn.) Public Library:

"Each book receives a new accession number, but takes the shelf number of the one it replaces. The only change made in the shelf-list is to draw a line through the old accession number and above it to write, *rep. by* —, giving the new number. In the card catalog, if the new book corresponds exactly with the old, the cards remain, the accession number only being changed. But if there are changes to be made, such as cannot easily be effected on the original cards, they are removed from the catalog and new ones are made."

Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Library:

"Cards of worn-out books are preserved for yearly statistics, and new cards given to the volumes replacing. New accession numbers are given and notes are made in the accession book under the numbers of both new and old books, the one referring to the other. The new book takes the call number of the old one, but the old accession number is crossed off in red ink in the shelf-list and the new number is marked as replacing the old one. No new entries are made in the catalog proper for a replaced book."

Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library:

"We discard about 700 vols. a year. In our charging system we use book cards bearing book number and accession number. When a book is discarded these cards are taken out, from them shelf-sheet entries are marked '*discarded*,' and the cards are filed, making a list of '*discards*,' from which we order. When the replacements are received they are given a new accession number. The shelf-list clerk, however, gives them the *book number* of the discarded book, puts in them a slip marked '*orig. disc.*' and gives them to the cataloger. The cataloger compares them with the catalog, making changes in entries if necessary. If, on comparing the book cards with the shelf-list, the book is found to be the only copy in the library, the card is given to the cataloger, who removes the entries from the catalog, filing them into a catalog of '*discards*.' When

the book is replaced, she compares and replaces entries."

Lowell (Mass.) Public Library:

"Our discarded books are allowed to accumulate until we have about 50, when they are copied in numerical order into our '*discarded book*.' When the time comes for reordering, each entry on the '*discarded book*' is copied on a slip of paper and these slips are arranged alphabetically according to author. From these slips the order is sent to the bookseller. When the books are received, each book is checked on the slip and the original number given it from the slip. Then the book, with its original number, is entered in the accession book and receives a new accession number. The new accession number is entered in the shelf-list with '*Rpd.*' added. '*To replace*' is also written in the remark column of the accession book. The books received are marked '*Rpd.*' in the '*discarded book*,' and the slips for them are destroyed. The remaining slips are arranged with others, which have accumulated in the same way. This furnishes an alphabetical list of all books unobtainable. In replacing we endeavor to obtain the same edition, or at least to get the book from the same publishers. When this is not possible, a new card, bearing the original number, takes the place of the old card in the card catalog."

Lynn (Mass.) Free Public Library:

"We use the regular '*A. L. A. Accession book*' and class sheets. We give every volume an accession number in order of purchase, and we keep a record of books worn out in a volume prepared for that purpose. The titles, accession, and shelf numbers are entered in special columns, and when the book is replaced its title and numbers are entered on the same lines in parallel columns. The book takes the shelf number of the withdrawn volume, with a new accession. This keeps our record of purchases intact for further reference, enables us to know what books have been withdrawn, when the vacancy was filled, and for what cause the book was taken out."

"We use a book for duplicates in which the numbers are arranged in parallel columns, A, B, C, D, etc. When a volume is worn out or withdrawn it is noted in this book, with the date. When it is replaced the new accession is entered under the old one, which enables us to know how many times the book has been replaced, and also how many copies are still in use."

Malden (Mass.) Public Library:

"When a book is withdrawn the accession number is marked '*w*' in the accession book, and in the shelf book a line is drawn through it. When a new copy is bought a new accession number is given it in its regular order of purchase, and this new number is written above the old one in the shelf book. The original shelf number is retained. As regards the card catalog nothing is done until we are sure the book will not or cannot be replaced, in which case the cards are removed. If the replaced book is an edition which differs materially from the old one, new cards are placed in the

catalog. This rarely occurs, as most of such books are of current fiction, where there is little variation in the editions."

New Haven (Ct.) Public Library:

"In discarding a book the title-page is stamped 'discarded,' and the book slip, which is used for charging, receives the accession number. With the book slip in hand the accession book entry is marked 'discarded' by a stamp, the author card is removed entirely from the catalog, or the particular copy, when there is more than one, is crossed off by drawing a line through the accession number, which is placed on the back of the author card. The accession number on the class list is crossed off by a red line. Sometimes the author card from the catalog is filed until a new copy comes; sometimes a new card is made."

New York State Library, Albany:

"Our method of dealing in the accession book with a new book replacing one lost or worn out is given under accession book rule 4 e, f. These state the reasons for never putting two books on the same accession number. In the shelf-list the old accession number is crossed out, the word *lost* written in red beside it, and the new accession number written above the old. In the card catalog, if the new copy is an exact duplicate of the one replaced, the only change is to cancel on the main author and subject cards the old accession numbers and stamp on them the number of the new book. If the new copy varies, the old cards are either altered or are discarded and new ones made. Usually a slight alteration on the old cards is sufficient."

New York Y. M. C. A. Library:

"We give replaced books a new number in the accession catalog."

Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library:

"Our method of treating books which have come in to take the place of lost or worn-out copies is to treat them as entirely new books so far as the accession number is concerned. The shelf-list and cards stand as originally. When a new edition of an old book is received it is treated in the same way, namely: new accession number, old shelf-list number, and placed on the original cards as a new edition."

Newton (Mass.) Free Library:

"We give the new book the same shelf number as the worn-out book, for in this way the public is not troubled by any change we may make. We give the new book a new accession number, since we use the accession book for our statistics as to purchases, etc., at the close of the year. We do not put the book's accession number on the card in the card catalog. In regard to new editions, we have found it more satisfactory to use the same shelf number, unless the book is so different from the old one that it seems to be desirable to treat it as a new book. We put the late edition, with its additions and revisions, and the new imprint on the card with the old."

Omaha (Neb.) Public Library:

"The new book retains the same shelf number, but not the same accession number, as the one it replaces, with one exception. If a book is lost it is paid for by the book-borrower or the

guarantor, and replaced after three months by the library, the new book receiving the same shelf and accession number. When a book is worn out we stamp in the 'remarks' column of accession ledger 'worn out,' with month and year. The book is then 'dead,' but its shelf number is kept until a replacement is made."

"In case we do not care to have a book replaced we mark against it in the shelf-list a green pencil check on the left side of page, thus calling attention to the fact that it is not to be replaced. In a case of this kind the shelf number may be given to another book, but it receives a new accession, and is counted as one of the new accessions of the month and year. Our books when worn out are so stamped in the accession ledger, never in the shelf-list, with the exception noted above. When the discarded or worn-out books are checked in the accession ledger they are stamped 'condemned' across the title-page or first page of book. In addition to the checking in the accession ledger it would be more than advisable to check, on the card in the catalog case, against the accession or copy number of a book, so one could tell at a glance just how many copies of a book were in the library in circulation."

Osterhout Free Library, Wilkesbarre, Pa.:

"In replacing a lost or worn-out book we treat it as a new book, so far as the accessions book is concerned, entering it on date of receipt, and also entering against the old book the fact that it is worn out or lost. In the shelf card the accession number of the discarded book is crossed out and the new one added. On the catalog card nothing is changed, excepting the date of publication if necessary. The book number is not changed if the edition is the same."

Otis Library, Norwich, Ct.:

"This library replaces about 600 worn-out books every year, and pursues the following plan: Entry of the discarded book is made in a record book, giving date, consecutive number of discard, accession number, author and title, noting whether worn out, lost and paid for, etc. The fact that the book is discarded is then noted on the accession book, in the 'remarks' column, with date of discard. If the book is to be replaced, a purchase slip is made at the same time, as most convenient for getting particulars from the accession book. If there is but one copy of the book its shelf-list card is taken out, and placed in order either under the designation of books to be replaced, or books not to be replaced. The letters w. o. (worn out) are placed against the accession numbers on the back of the shelf-list cards. The same plan is pursued with catalog cards; but if there is more than one copy of the discarded book, the w. o. is placed against the accession number, and the cards are restored to their places. When a new book comes in to replace a discarded one, the old shelf-list and catalog cards are used, and the book takes the place on the shelf which its predecessor occupied. It is, however, given a new accession number, and in the 'remarks'

column it is noted that it replaces no. —. If there is a marked difference in the edition replacing the worn-out book, a new catalog card is made, but the former shelf card is retained."

Peoria (Ill.) Public Library:

"Our books have no shelf number, but are arranged on the shelves, under their respective classes, alphabetically according to author, and under the author, as in fiction, alphabetically according to title. When a book is lost or withdrawn, all its cards are withdrawn, and a notation made opposite its number in the accession catalog. We keep also a separate record of all such losses and withdrawals. All books are accessioned in regular order, whether entirely new or to replace lost or condemned books, but we make use of the old author and subject cards if the edition is the same. We do not revive dead numbers."

Portland (Me.) Public Library:

"We give the new copy the old shelf number, but a new accession number, and write 'withdrawn' against the old accession number."

"In the case of works of fiction which are constantly wearing out, no change is made in the card catalog or shelf-list; but for works of other classes, when replaced by a different edition, the rule is either to write a new card, or to note the edition on the old one."

Portland (Ore.) Library Association:

"We keep a 'withdrawal book' as an offset to the accession register. All books that are worn out, lost, or discarded are entered in this record. All books added, whether duplicates or replacements, are entered in the register of accessions. When books are withdrawn their entry is cancelled in the shelf-list and catalog. The replacements are treated as new books. We use the Rudolph Indexer books for our shelf-list, and the replaced book takes the call number of the original copy. The 'withdrawal book' is ruled into columns, headed as follows: Left-hand page—number, date, accession number, call number, author, title. Right-hand page—cause, remarks, date replaced, accession number, call number, remarks."

Pratt Institute (Brooklyn, N. Y.) Free Library:

"Our method of replacing discarded books is as follows: A record is kept, by means of the book cards, of books discarded, and at the end of each month these are entered in a book which we had made for the purpose, and which we call the 'withdrawal book.' This is arranged with consecutive withdrawal numbers stamped on each page, so that by means of these we can tell how many books have been withdrawn within a given time. The headings of this book read as follows: Withdrawal no., call no., no. of copies left, accession no., author, title, remarks, date replaced, accession no., call no."

"The number of copies left is noted in order that we may judge whether we need to replace the book or not. The second accession number represents the accession number of the new copy, and the second call number also. If the replaced copy is exactly the same as the other, a comparison with the old catalog card shows it, and in that case the same call number is given. We use the same call number for all

copies of the same book, if of the same edition, or if exactly the same as the original. If the only change in the added copy is that of binding—that is, if the original copy is bound in one volume and the added copy is bound in more than one (or *vice versa*), the added copy takes the same number as the original with a letter added, *e.g.*, original copy is 2-A821; added copy in two volumes is 2-A821a. This practically changes the book number and yet keeps the various copies of the book together on the shelves. In the column of 'remarks' we note the reasons of the book's disappearance. In the accession book, in the column of 'remarks' we note the final disposition of the book; on the shelf-list and card in the catalog we cross off the accession number, giving new accession number in both these places when the replaced copy is added."

Providence (R. I.) Public Library:

"If there is only one copy of a book in the library and it is lost or worn out, its card is removed from the card catalog. When it is replaced the new copy is newly accessioned, given the same class number as the old copy, with the addition of the letter *b* to distinguish it from the one withdrawn. A new card is made for the card catalog. All books withdrawn from the library are so indicated on the accession book and shelf-list."

St. Louis (Mo.) Public Library:

"When a book is withdrawn it is entered in the 'withdrawn' book, the shelf-list card is stamped 'withdrawn,' and all its cards are taken out of the catalog. The number in the accession book is stamped 'withdrawn' later, at our convenience, and when this is done the shelf-list card is destroyed. On its replacement the new copy is entered in the accession book exactly as though it were a new book, and is added to the shelf-list in the same way. The catalog cards are compared with the book, and if it is a different edition, as it is most likely to be, changes are made; if not, the cards are simply replaced in the catalog. We have no book numbers."

Salem (Mass.) Public Library:

"In withdrawing a book we write 'withdrawn' and date against the original entry in the accession book. The book is then entered in the withdrawal book, which is ruled for the following items: Author, title, cause, date, replaced, new accession number, new call number (generally same as old), remarks. The accession number is then crossed off the shelf-list and the charging slip, which with us is permanent, is cancelled. The copy to replace is accessioned in the same manner as a new book. The new accession number is entered in the shelf-list and also on the back of the author card, the old accession number being crossed off. The proper entries are made in the withdrawal book. In the average public library an old edition of a book is generally useless. For this reason when we buy a revised edition it generally receives the same call mark as the old book, the latter being withdrawn. If the old edition has such special interest that it deserves to be kept, the new re-

ceives a different call mark. In both of these cases the book must be recataloged."

San Francisco (Cal.) Free Public Library:

"A withdrawal register is kept, showing the accession no., call no., author, title, and date of withdrawal of books worn out or lost, with columns also for cause of withdrawal, date replaced, etc. All books withdrawn are entered in this register in consecutive order, in the same manner as in an accessions register. By deducting the last withdrawal number from the last accession number, we have the actual number of books in the library. The new copies take new accession numbers, but the same shelf numbers as the copies they replace. No change is made in the card catalog, except in the case of different editions, etc., and the only change on the shelf-list is to note the new accession number. The system is quite satisfactory."

Scranton (Pa.) Public Library:

"The matter of 'replacements' is one particular phase of a library's continuance, and certainly calls for distinct treatment apart from the usual accessions. The accession book should show in the closing number the total of all additions to the library from the beginning. We use as a companion or corollary to the accession book a 'cancellations record,' in which to enter, in consecutive order, all books lost, damaged, or discarded, which have thus ceased to continue live and serviceable property of the library. Its columnar rulings and headings, therefore, correspond very nearly to those of the accession book, as follows: Accession no., class no., book no., author, title, ed. or vol., place, publisher, year, size, list price, net cost, fund or source, cause of cancellation, when replaced, new accession no. As in a properly used accession book, one line is always allowed for the entry of each volume.

"We consider the accession book as a record of stock *in*, and the cancellation record as that of stock *out*. The difference between the totals of the two shows the net property on hand, and affords a ready basis for annual statistics. A cross-memorandum, or posting, for each item is made in the 'remarks' column from one book to the other. These cross-references are made with little labor and tell their own story from thenceforward.

"In the card catalog, memoranda of accession numbers of the copy or copies of each work and volume, appear on the backs of their respective author cards. In case of withdrawal, or loss, such accession numbers have a cancellation line drawn through them. If such is the final or only copy of a book, and its withdrawal causes a vacant call number, the card or cards are removed from the catalog for the time being and held out, pending possible replacement of the book. When replaced books come to hand, and are fully entered, their accession numbers are duly placed on the corresponding cards, just as in the case of a work newly added. The shelf-list and card catalog should each serve its purpose definitely and in a manner to be relied upon accordingly."

Toronto (Canada) Public Library:

"Our replacements amount to about 500 per

annum, and we include in this books worn out, books lost and paid for, and books destroyed by the health officer. The assistant in charge of the shelf-list, on the loss being reported, marks in red ink L. or L. & P. opposite the number. A monthly list of these books is prepared, which list is brought to the librarian for consultation as to what duplicates or extra copies can be dispensed with. Usually about one-third of the list is cancelled and the shelf number given to a new book. But in every case where we have only one copy of the book we endeavor to replace it, keeping the number in the shelf-list and the name in the catalog unaltered. Replacements are entered as new books in the accession book, and these accession numbers are entered in the shelf-list. We are not altogether satisfied with our method, but it has grown into use as the one presenting the fewest difficulties."

Wilmington (Del.) Institute Free Library:

"We assign one number to a book, and one book to a number. We believe that the accession book ought to contain the history of each book, particularly the financial history. When the book is rebound the fact is recorded in the 'remarks' column, giving date and cost; likewise, when it is worn out and condemned, and when replaced, 'repl.' by such and such a number. Here, then, is the whole history of the life of the book, and a statement of the first cost and all repairs. On the shelf-list and card catalog an exact replacement, or one not so exact in fiction and juvenile, would take the call number of the old book, the old accession number being stricken off the shelf-list card and the catalog card, and the new one put on. The shelf-list and catalog cards are rewritten or corrected, as may be necessary, when the replaced book is a different edition."

2. OLD ACCESSION NUMBER.

16 libraries give the new book the accession number of the one it replaces. To these this library should be added. In our circular letter the method of this library was referred to as follows:

"Our method enables the new book to retain the same shelf and accession number as the one it replaces; and we can replace the book without consulting the shelf-list or the card catalog, so that the cataloging in the first instance stands. A new and different edition usually enters the library without reference to the old book and is cataloged accordingly, in which event the copy of the former edition is said to 'die' and its shelf number may be used for another."

For a better understanding of the method of this library a more detailed description is necessary. A record is kept of books withdrawn, in which is entered in consecutive order the books withdrawn from the library — now some 10,000. This book is ruled for the fol-

lowing items: Withdrawal no., date replaced, author, title, accession no., shelf no. (including duplicate mark), publisher. The entries are brief, the whole entry for one book occupying a line of a page less than 10 inches in width. If for any reason a book is not to be replaced, "discarded" is written against it in the "date replaced" column. Books to be replaced are made into numbered lists, said lists being sent to the bookseller, who always enters the number of the list against each book on the bill as it is sent to the library. The number and date of the list is written at the head of each lot in the record of books withdrawn. There is, therefore, no difficulty to find when a book was withdrawn, in entering the date of the bill on which it is replaced, even though the book may have been withdrawn many years ago. When the books to replace are received they are entered in the "replacement book," ruled as follows: Date of bill, replacement no., author, title, publisher, date, size, pages, binding, source, cost, remarks. In the "remarks" column is entered the number of the list, thereby providing for easy reference to the record of books withdrawn. The replacement number is then posted in the "remarks" column of the accession book. It is also written under the old accession number on the back of the title-page of the book.

In practice this method amounts to accessioning the replacing book, but in such a way that the cataloging cards need not be touched. The entries in the "replacement book" are somewhat briefer than in the regular accession book, so that in practice it is found that a hundred books can be entered therein and posted into the accession book (completing the work on replacements, except the labelling and tagging) in about the same time it takes to enter a hundred books in the accession book. The exact number of books in the library can be readily told at any time and every question that may arise concerning a replaced book can be answered as accurately as any question concerning a book that had never been withdrawn.

The method described above has been followed since the beginning of 1893.

Those libraries that retain the old accession number will now describe their methods.

Berkshire Athenaeum, Pittsfield, Mass.:

"If the new book is of the same edition as the one it replaces it simply takes its place and no reference is had to the catalog or shelf-list. A new and different edition receives the

same number as the book it replaces, with letter to show duplication, and is cataloged accordingly. We do not 'kill' any worn-out catalog books, but leave their numbers vacant, in the hope of future replacement."

Birmingham (Eng.) Free Library:

"We deal with replacements as follows:

"1. The new copy is given the old number.

"2. The date of the edition is revised when necessary.

"3. The cost of the new copy is carried in the shelf catalog.

"In regard to obsolete books discarded from the library the location numbers of these are not used again until a new edition of the catalog is issued."

Columbia University Library, New York City:

"We keep an accession book with a number for each volume. In case a volume is found to be duplicate, is lost, or condemned as being worn out, one of two things is done. If it is a lost book and can be replaced, it is replaced, and the old number is stamped in the new copy. In this case none of the library records are destroyed, but we enter on the accession book the fact that a new copy has been put in. If the new copy happens to be a different edition, the catalog cards are corrected.

"If the book is condemned or lost, and it is not deemed desirable to replace it, or if the book is shown to be a duplicate, these facts are entered on the accession book and the number is transferred to a supplementary accession book and will be given to a new book. This supplementary accession book is reached by reference from the regular accession book, as the numbers in it are not consecutive. The theory is that the accession number shows the number of bound volumes in the library, and it does this approximately. If the new edition of the book replaced is radically different from the book lost or condemned, we treat it as a new book and simply enter against the old number 'lost' or 'condemned' and transfer that number to our supplementary accession book."

Cornell University Library, Ithaca, N. Y.:

"If a book is replaced by a copy of the same edition, so that it is an exact duplicate of the original copy, we give it the same accession and press number, and the catalog cards require no change. If, on the other hand, a book is replaced by a copy of a different edition, the new book receives a new accession number, but is given the shelf number of the original copy, and the catalog cards are corrected to conform to the edition, date, etc., of the new copy."

Dayton (O.) Public Library:

"When a book is worn out we record in a book especially for that purpose, the author, title, publisher and place of publication, book number, shelf number. When the book is replaced, if it agrees as to author, title, etc., we give it the old number, if not, a new number, and count the old book as out of print."

Hamilton (Ontario) Public Library:

"We retain the same accession and shelf number for each worn-out book replaced, and note on the back of the title-page of the new copy that it is replaced for the second time or

more, as the case may be, with date of replacement. If the publisher or price of the new copy is different, we note this on the card in the catalog. If a book is lost the new copy is treated as a new book and given a new accession and shelf number. All our worn-out books are sold direct to the paper-mill and are sent to the mill, at intervals of about four months, under a guarantee that they go direct into the vat. We prefer this mode of disposing of them, rather than of selling them or giving them away, as none of them find their way into second-hand stores or turn up in other places to give us trouble at some future time."

Indianapolis (Ind.) Public Library:

"We do not use the same shelf number for a new edition. If a new edition comes in it receives a shelf number beside the other, thus: T900, the old edition, would stand beside TAgoo, the new. If the book is in fiction, poetry, etc., and in the new edition there is no change, we give it the old shelf and accession numbers and place it at once on the shelf, noting the number of the new edition on the condemned check, which now becomes the replaced check. In the case of the new revised edition, it takes a new shelf and accession number, and these items noted on the condemned check indicate that the original edition could not be procured. The replaced checks are filed. When a new finding list is issued T900 is dropped and TAgoo is printed."

Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library:

"In addition to our accession book we keep a 'replaced accession book.' In this way our replaced books retain their original shelf and accession numbers, and receive an additional accession number. The card catalog remains unchanged. Change in title, publisher, or edition is shown in the replaced accession book. The proper numbers are entered in each book, so that reference is easily made from one to the other."

Lawrence (Mass.) Public Library:

Like Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Manchester (Eng.) Public Free Library:

"The new copy takes the place and number of the worn-out one, and when a book is not replaced its shelf number is used for another. With ordinary novels in the lending library we pay no attention to editions, and therefore it is unnecessary to make any alteration in the catalog. Later editions of other discarded books are cataloged as new books, and the catalog entries of former editions are taken out."

Manchester (N. H.) City Library:

"In dealing with 'replacements' we first enter each book in a blank-book kept for that purpose. This entry is not so full as an entry in an accession book, but it is kept for the purpose of ascertaining at the end of the year how many books have been replaced and at what cost. On the shelf-list no new entry is made, but the book is given the number which belonged to the old copy. On the catalog no change is made in the case of novels, but any other book which is published later than the original one has either a new card made for it (the old card being withdrawn) or the old card

is corrected to correspond with the replaced volume. The replaced book always receives the same accession number that the first book had."

Minneapolis (Minn.) Public Library:

"When for any reason a book is no longer a part of the library, a blank is written for it. When a blank is written up, with all the necessary information noted, the fact of the loss is recorded on the shelf-lists (usually by drawing a pencil line through the particular duplicate letter of the copy which is lost, so that the line can be erased when the copy is replaced). These blanks are then filed away alphabetically, forming a record which is very convenient in taking the inventory. In case the book lost is the only copy, the fact is reported to the librarian, and it is either replaced (in which case nothing is done to the catalog card), or it is considered a useless book, and the catalog card is withdrawn from the case. When duplicate books are purchased the blanks are looked over and as far as possible the duplicate books take the place of the old ones, receiving the same accession number, etc. Whenever a book is so replaced it is looked up in the accession book, and any difference in price or description between it and the original is noted. The book is restored in the shelf-lists, and steps into the place of the original copy. The blank is then stamped 'replaced,' and is filed away to form a record of the transaction. When a new edition of a work comes into the library we do not consider that the old one dies; we simply note the new edition on the catalog card, so that one card records all the editions which the library has."

New York Free Circulating Library:

"Our method enables the new book to retain the same shelf and accession number as the one it replaces, and the cataloging in the first instance stands. A new edition, if that is merely revised and corrected, is usually treated in the same manner; but a new edition much enlarged, or a new edition containing additional matter with separate title (e.g., "Catherine and Denis Duval" replacing "Catherine") is cataloged, accessioned, and shelf-listed as an entirely new book and the old accession number 'dies,' but is allowed to remain 'dead,' not assigned to any other book. In some instances, where the old book is in the printed catalog, but cannot be replaced in the same form, we rebind the book to agree with the old edition. This, however, rarely happens. All worn-out, lost, and duplicate copies are treated in this way. All worn-out and lost books are replaced whenever possible. If such a book happens to be out of print at the time, the book card, accession no., shelf no., and catalog cards are retained until such time as the book again appears in print."

Northampton (Mass.) Public Library:

Like Enoch Pratt Free Library.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Library Co.:

"When a book is lost or worn out we always make a special effort to replace it by a copy of the same edition; viz., one that will require no change in our catalog and no differentiation

except the numbering of successive copies of the same edition. Each successive copy which is of the same edition is numbered successively, though all bear the same accession number; e.g., 2916, copy 1; 2916, copy 2, etc. When a copy is lost or destroyed or worn out, we mark that fact on the margin of the accession catalog, and give the next copy number to its successor. We never assign the same accession number to two copies that differ in the slightest degree, bibliographically, from each other. A new or different edition is treated as a different book."

Worcester (Mass.) Free Public Library:

Like Enoch Pratt Free Library.

3. NO ACCESSION BOOK.

Only four libraries use no accession book, and the methods of replacing vary accordingly.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) Library:

"We do not keep a regular accession book, but in its place an *invoice book*, with ruled columns for classification, etc. If a number of copies of a work are bought there is still only one line in the invoice book to indicate the number. But on the shelf-list the duplicate copies are marked *a*, *b*, *c*, etc., sometimes to the end of the alphabet and beyond. When a book is sold we mark out the letter indicating the copy. If we replace the copy we mark it with a new letter—the one following the last one used. The shelf number is never used for any other work, even if the only copy we have is lost. Unless the new edition of any work is markedly different from the old, it is shelved as a duplicate of the original, although it may place a new card in the catalog to indicate wherein it differs from the old edition. Each new book added has the date of entry marked on the back of its title-page, so that its price or seller may be looked up at any time if required. We keep a list of all books sold or exchanged, etc., and these are deducted according to classification from the yearly count, when the annual report is made up."

Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Mass.:

"If a book is worn out and is replaced by the same edition, it is given the same shelf number. If a new edition is obtained, it is treated as a new book and cataloged afresh, and is given a new shelf number. If it is not replaced, the entry in the card catalog and shelf-list is cancelled. We have no accession catalog distinct from the shelf-list. The two are combined."

Detroit (Mich.) Public Library:

"Our method of discarding worn-out books and replacing them with new ones has been evolved by experience, and without any knowledge of the practice of other libraries. The library is classified on the decimal system, and uses the Cutter book number. There is no accession number and no shelf number. There are printed catalogs and a card catalog. The shelf-list is kept on cards in trays in a fireproof safe, as an inventory. Of the 1280 books worn out last year 1709 were fiction. When books are not worth rebinding they are thrown aside, and on the last day of the month a list of them

is made and submitted to the librarian. Unless there are reasons for preserving any, on account of rarity or special value, they are thrown into the furnace. The list is then made into an order on the book-dealer, and the cards are taken out of the card catalog and the shelf-list. If, as often happens in fiction, the worn-out book is a duplicate copy, the cards are not taken out, but a memorandum slip is inserted. When the book to replace the worn-out one comes in, it is given the same number as the old book. If it is the same edition as the old one, the catalog and shelf-list cards are reinserted unchanged; if it is a different edition, the cards are corrected, or new ones written. If, as sometimes happens, the worn-out book is entirely out of print and cannot be replaced, the cards are destroyed; or, if a duplicate, this copy is erased from the cards. The same method is employed in replacing books lost and paid for."

Yale University Library, New Haven, Ct.:

"We do not keep an accession book. The new book, if of the same edition, takes the place of the old without further ceremony; if of a different edition, the shelf-list and cards are corrected, or a new card written to replace the old."

4. MODIFIED ACCESSION BOOK.

Two libraries use accession books and numbers in an unusual way; a way, however, that has its advantages, as will be seen.

Boston (Mass.) Public Library:

"This library has no accession book in the ordinary sense of that term. Upon the removal of the library to the new building the Lower Hall branch, the prototype of the other branches, was consolidated with the central library; but many details of numbering the books, etc., have been retained which are at variance with the practice followed in the central library. Any book condemned has a line drawn through its accession number on the shelf-list, the replacing copy receiving its own accession number. In this way the shelf-list tells how many copies have been used up, the library life of any copy, and how long the popular life of the book has continued. Persistent efforts are made to replace books that are desirable, as it is the policy of the library not to allow books to die out from the collection."

"In the general collection any replacement, if identical with the condemned, missing, or lost copy, receives the same shelf number, but its own accession number. Replacements differing in edition receive new shelf numbers, and each separate edition of any book receives its own shelf number."

"It may add to a clearer understanding of the system above described if some information be given about the accession numbers now in use in the library. In the case of purchases every invoice receives the date of the day it comes to hand and a letter, thus: *March 7/96—C*," which means that it was the third invoice received on that day. This same date and letter are put on the verso of the title-page of each book covered by that invoice. The date and

invoice letter are entered in the shelf-list. These invoices are filed away as received and a separate chronological list is kept. Books received by gift bear the date when received and the name of the giver on the title-page. The date only is entered on the shelf-list.

"The cards covering any condemned, missing, or lost book, not replaced for valid reasons, are taken out of the public card catalog; but in the official card catalog the main or author card is allowed to remain after having had noted upon it what has become of the book covered by it. This note prevents the reordering of any book whose replacement is not desired, or it shows what disposition should be made of a book newly received by gift."

Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library:

"A new copy of a worn-out book, if it differs from the old one in any particular except perhaps in the imprint, is generally entirely recataloged, and the new cards are substituted for the old ones. No changes are made where the new copy corresponds entirely, or practically, with the old. This does not apply to fiction, for here we make no account whatever of the edition, and consequently a new copy rarely requires recataloging. With regard to the accession book, our method differs considerably from those ordinarily employed. We use a Library Bureau accession book, and enter in the usual way all costly books as well as those which we buy in small lots from dealers who are not our regular agents. All ordinary books of the day, whether replaced books or new ones, are entered in the accession book as follows: First, costly books, as above. To the others (and this generally means the entire bill) one accession number is given, and a memorandum of the number of volumes, together with

the total cost, is put in the accession book. The bill is then pasted in a large book kept for that purpose, after being stamped with the accession number, and can be referred to at any time. We have used the above method about a year and have found it entirely satisfactory. It is our belief that the accession book as ordinarily used costs a great deal more in time and labor than its results are worth. By our present method we save a great deal of time, and we find filed bills supply the place of full accession entries as far as the great majority of books are concerned."

From this extended study of replacements we conclude that any method that practically involves the recataloging of a book every time it is worn out, or lost, and then replaced, is one involving much expense—more, indeed, than the results are worth. The force of this statement must be evident when it is remembered that more than 90 per cent. of the replacements in circulating libraries are in the classes of fiction and juveniles—classes where editions, etc., mean least of all. The number of replacements in The Enoch Pratt Free Library is such that any method involving, in effect, the recataloging of every book would require the employment of another person. We do not believe the results would justify the cost. The subject of replacements has not received the attention it deserves. It is hoped that this paper may contribute something toward the solution of a vexing and perplexing problem.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENTS.*

BY MARY ELLA DOUSMAN, *Public Library, Milwaukee, Wis.*

THE most interesting problem in the modern library world is how to best serve the interests of that "most numerous and worthy part of the community—the children." Too much thought cannot be given to the best ways of attracting the little ones from all walks of life, and showing them the way to gather for themselves the treasures which our libraries contain.

One of the best ways to accomplish this lies in the equipment of one room or more in which special attention can be given to the needs of children.

Much of the success of such a room would depend on the one in charge, who, with love for children, the right spirit, and the enthusiasm necessary to carry on such work, could find

* Paper read at a meeting of the Milwaukee Library Round Table, Aug. 6, 1896.

endless opportunities for reaching and helping the children.

The children's room should be easy of access, on the ground floor, and within sight of the main delivery-room, if possible, one entrance serving for both. Separate entrances tend to divide the children and grown folk completely, adding somewhat, perhaps, to the comfort of such adults as do not like to be bothered with children; but there appears to be no other advantage and there are some drawbacks. In an ideal children's room fathers, mothers, teachers, and older brothers and sisters should be welcome; for if not here, where else shall a little child lead them?

Children are greatly influenced by their surroundings, and a room devoted to them cannot be made too attractive. It should be of good size, light and airy, sunny, if possible, with

plenty of wall-space for pictures. The wood-work and furnishings should preferably be of light wood, as it is more cheerful and does not show wear as do the darker woods. Window-boxes filled with plants and vines would add to the home-like appearance of the room. Casts, reliefs, and replicas would be great additions. Mounted photographs and plates might be put about the room. To do this without marring either wall or pictures the use of a spring clothes-pin, fastening the picture to suspended cords or chains, has been suggested.

The chairs and tables should be of different sizes to suit big, little, and middle-sized children. One library has revolving stools, which, while they do not produce a pleasing effect, have the advantage of being adjustable to variable heights.

Young folks' current periodicals should be on the tables, and all books within reach on the shelves, the linen and pasteboard pictures being found on the lower tiers. A supply of mounted pictures may be kept on hand for the children to look at when tired of reading. A bulletin board upon which might be placed interesting facts, bits of news, quotations, lists of interesting books, etc., would be an interesting feature. Teachers should co-operate with the library in assisting on amusement or lecture evenings; and, in return, the one in charge should carefully follow the lines of work in the schools, and provide lists of books on subjects under consideration. A selection of books on special subjects might be placed on certain shelves for the convenience of teachers and pupils.

If the children show a disposition to be helpful in any way, always encourage them, by having them assist in replacing books, perhaps, or arranging periodicals on the tables, etc. All that tends to make them feel an interest and ownership in the room will tend to make them wish to come often and to bring others to share their pleasure.

The sense of personal ownership was especially emphasized upon the recent opening of a children's department in the Buffalo Library.

Placards were printed and placed wherever they were likely to attract the attention of children—at missions, hospitals, homes, orphan asylums, fresh-air establishments, drug-stores (for soda-water customers), candy-stores, newspaper offices, newsboys' homes, mission Sunday-schools, etc. They were printed in bold and attractive type and read as follows:

BOYS AND GIRLS,
A ROOM FOR YOU IN THE
BUFFALO LIBRARY.
BOOKS FOR YOU TO READ.
PICTURES FOR YOU TO LOOK AT.
MAPS FOR YOU TO PUT TOGETHER.
MAGAZINES FOR EVERYBODY.
Some one to tell you stories.
Bring your little brothers and sisters.
Come and enjoy YOUR ROOM at the BUFFALO Library,
Corner of Washington Street and Broadway.

The cards were posted on Friday and Saturday, July 31 and August 1, 1896, with the following results:

"Result 1. Monday and every day since, children's room crowded, and overflow meetings have been held in adjoining committee room."

"Result 2. A steady current of extra tables and chairs from all parts of the library upstairsward."

"Result 3. More small furniture ordered."

"Result 4. More dissected maps ordered and more animals sliced."

"Result 5. The happiest children anywhere to be found."

In an interesting letter from the head of this department, Miss Fernald writes: "In addition to our books and pictures, our dissected maps and sliced animals, suggested by Miss Stearns, are extremely popular; children wait for them in threes and fours. We are going to have more. We have just added kindergarten peg-boards, and picture scrap-books are in process of construction. I keep pencils and paper at hand for restless little people who are tired of looking at pictures and think it fun to make some. We shall have a regular hour for story-telling, and announce the hour and subject on our bulletin board. I fancy many children who have not pleasant homes may be glad to prepare their lessons here. The children are orderly and friendly, and are spreading the news that there is a place for them here rapidly."

Miss Pratt, in charge of the children's room at the Minneapolis Public Library, gives a most interesting description of that department. The room is on the ground floor, is cheerful and pleasant, and is open from 1:30 to 6 p.m. in summer; from 3 to 8 p.m. in winter. The same system of receiving and charging books is used as in the general library. During the hours when this room is not open the books may be returned upstairs. The children have

free access to the shelves, are quiet and orderly, and uniformly grateful for any assistance rendered.

Miss Pratt regards a separate and free access to the shelves as best adapted to the needs of the youngest children, as the older boys and girls seem inclined to keep on reading juvenile books, rather than take the more mature books from the other department, where it is a little more trouble to select, as they are not allowed the freedom of the shelves.

Low tables and little chairs will soon be put in. The winter circulation averages 200 a day, and between 500 and 600 on Saturdays. This does not include books sent to branches and schools.

In the new Milwaukee Library building the children's room will be on the first floor, to the left of the main delivery-room, so that it may be controlled, when necessary, from that department. The librarian "believes that the most valuable work of the library will be done here."

The Milwaukee Library is especially fortunate in having the natural history museum in the same building, and by working together much good may be accomplished by the two institutions.

Miss Stearns in an address before the Chicago Library Club gives us a pleasing picture. She says: "Gather your little ragamuffins up in one of the rooms of the library and bring out the beautiful colored plates from Audubon's 'Birds' and teach them a love for and admiration of God's animate creation." The Milwaukee Library will be in a position to do this and more, for the children may be sent from the pictures directly to the collections of birds in which the museum is so rich. The same may be done with Edwards's "Butterflies," with the plates from Brehm's "Thierleben," and countless other treasures.

The children should be required to make a show of clean hands before being allowed to handle the books, and in order to facilitate this a lavatory is quite a necessary adjunct to the room. Some of the rough usage to which the books are subjected might be avoided by enforcing this rule.

The children's room in the Denver Public Library adjoins the delivery-room, with no gate or door between the two. During the first 16 months it had on its shelves from 3000 to 6000 volumes of juvenile books. Children have been admitted to it without restriction

12 hours a day every day in the year, and were permitted to select their own books, carry them to the delivery-counter, some distance away, and there have them charged. The library has no age limit. 90,000 volumes were lent out in the first 16 months. Probably from 40,000 to 50,000 visits were paid to the room by the children and others who did not take books away.

On checking over this department at the end of 16 months, there were found missing 123 books. These probably cost the library about one-fifth as much as to have managed the room in the old way, without open shelves and with an attendant constantly in charge. And of these 123 books it is probable that at least one-half will be returned inside of six months.

Children's departments have also been established at Brookline and Cambridge, Mass., Detroit, Mich., New Haven, Ct., Omaha, Neb., Carnegie Public Library, Pittsburgh, Pa., Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., Seattle, Wash., and San Francisco, Cal. Rooms have been planned for such purposes at Providence, R. I.

THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN UTAH.

THE passage of a library law by the Utah legislature on March 9 seemed evidence that the modern library movement had gained a foothold in the youngest state of the union, but, unfortunately, the new law has not yet produced the desired results. The present status of library affairs in Utah is briefly set forth as follows by Mrs. Harriet F. Emerson, president of the Ogden (Utah) Library Association, and one of those most interested in promoting the library legislation of last March:

"There are but two public libraries in Utah, one in Salt Lake City of 10,000 volumes, and one in Ogden of 1500, neither of which are free but maintained by subscriptions, entertainments, and an occasional appropriation from the city.

"Logan has a library in connection with the State Agricultural College, which has been made accessible to the public during the past year.

"Two years ago it seemed to some of those interested in library progress that the time had come when the larger cities should assume the support of the public libraries, and a bill was introduced at the next session of the legislature praying that a tax might be levied for this purpose. The bill passed both branches of the legislature but was vetoed by the governor.

"Nothing daunted, another bill was drafted and presented to the next legislature, which convened last winter, and it passed and re-

celved the governor's signature, but so altered and amended as to be scarcely recognized by its friends.

"It gave the city council the power to levy a tax of one-third of a mill, provided that, in cities of the first class 1000 property-holders and taxpayers should sign a petition favoring this tax, but left it optional with the city council to authorize this tax or not.

"In Salt Lake City nothing has been done in the matter, probably waiting for further legislation, but in Ogden the Library Association secured the required number of names to a petition and presented it to the city council; but they have refused to authorize the tax, giving instead a small monthly allowance.

"This has been a very great disappointment to us, although we realize the peculiar situation and understand why it was thought best not to increase the taxes just now. Utah has so lately assumed the responsibilities of statehood, with its additional burdens of higher taxes, that our city fathers were afraid to add even so small a straw as the proposed tax for the public library.

"During the next session of the legislature we hope to have a better bill passed, one that shall enable us to take our place in the large circle of libraries throughout the land, and by which we may be able to maintain a free public library in Ogden that shall be a credit to our young but growing city. Ogden has a population of 15,000 and there is no reason why we should not have a library of at least 10,000 volumes and a handsome building of our own. All that is needed is a little more enthusiasm on the part of those particularly interested and a more intelligent appreciation of the importance of the public library on the part of the people."

HOW TO MAKE A SMALL LIBRARY USEFUL.

THE following suggested means of increasing the usefulness and popularity of a village library are selected from a symposium on the subject, contained in the sixth report of the Massachusetts Library Commission. Replies to the circular sent out by the commission were received from a large number of libraries, and the symposium evidences a most general and inspiring spirit of helpfulness and appreciation of public wants.

"Courteous treatment to all, aid to those needing direction in the line of reading they wish to pursue, and a careful selection of books that tend to cultivate the public taste for reading for improvement and information."

"The most important attraction, in my experience, has been the placing of the new books added in some convenient place, so that the public may have access to them and select the ones they like."

"Have as many illustrated books as possible, particularly for the children and young people."

"Keep the teachers interested; ask them to direct the pupils as to line of books to be read, and also to special subjects, which need not

always be connected with school work. And most important, let the librarian be a cheerful worker, anticipating the wants of readers, and especially those of the younger patrons."

"Untiring courtesy and willingness to answer all demands, unswerving justice to every applicant; the use of local papers for items of interest concerning the library; a prompt placing of new books in the hands of the public."

"Giving to every one a cordial reception; always taking special pains to get the best books on the subject we have, and having books where people can see them."

"We have circulated our magazines for nearly two years; think it works well. Allowing advanced pupils and others to select from the shelves, under supervision, works well with us. So far we have found it safe. Our summer residents are delighted with this extension of liberty and have never abused it."

"Posting lists of books appropriate to any particular event—holiday, death of well-known man, celebration, etc. We aim to put these up at time of any great happening. We find the public is interested in a list of 'to latest accessions,' which we put up and fill, disregarding class of book, which is brought into account on the regular bulletin-board list."

"An abundance of bulletins; generous appropriations; increase of facilities for consulting the resources of the library; an information-desk."

"Principally money, system, well-regulated and classified books and catalog."

"Have books which the people will read, fiction predominating. Have a large share of juvenile literature, to interest the young people and inculcate the reading habit."

"1. A very judicious selection of books from all departments of literature, made with the desire and purpose to furnish only the best. 2. A careful study of the growing needs and tastes of the reading community. 3. Calling attention occasionally to attractive and valuable books, through the local press or by personal intercourse with the more intelligent readers, by members of the purchasing committee. 4. Putting no covers upon the books, thereby avoiding that depressing look of sameness and uniformity which shelves of covered books suggest. 5. Giving readers perfectly free access to the shelves of the library. Let no bars, railings, or librarian, even, stand between the reader and the books. In large libraries this may not be feasible, but in small libraries it is, and it is a good that should not be sacrificed to any prim ideas of order. Few will abuse this privilege, and cases of abuse can easily be dealt with without sacrificing the advantage which results to the many in being allowed to browse freely, with no let or hindrance, in all the fields of literature which the well-chosen library affords. In confirmation of the above, I may say that our summer visitors, coming mostly from the larger cities, warmly appreciate the unwonted freedom which our open shelves give them."

"A good librarian, who knows how to advise without being obtrusive."

American Library Association.

President: W. H. Brett, Public Library, Cleveland, O.

Secretary: Rutherford P. Hayes, Columbus, O.

Treasurer: G. W. Cole, 473 Jersey Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

EIGHTEENTH CONFERENCE, CLEVELAND,
SEPTEMBER 1-8, 1896.

FIRST DAY.

ON Tuesday, September 1, the 18th Conference of the American Library Association was opened in the Hollenden Hotel, in Cleveland, Ohio. The first day of the convention was, however, but half a day, as the majority of the delegates did not arrive until Tuesday noon. No formal sessions were, therefore, included, the day's program consisting of a general inspection of Cleveland libraries in the afternoon and a social session and exhibit of library appliances in the evening. The Cleveland Public Library was the goal of most of the visitors, and during the entire afternoon it was the scene of an animated and interesting library congress. It was attractively decorated with flags, bunting, potted plants, and cut flowers, afternoon lemonade was served in the cataloging-room on the third floor, and the welcome extended to the A. L. A. by the entire library force was so full of cordial good-will that the visitors realized still more strongly the kinship of common aims and methods that is inspired and strengthened afresh each year by these library gatherings. The various departments of the library and its methods of administration were explained and discussed, especially the "free access" system which is here adopted in entirety. This was of general interest, and the arrangement of the shelving, the grouping of the various divisions, and the practice of placing in each division the card catalog of that class were subjects of much comment and inquiry. The Case Library was also visited by many, who found pleasure in inspecting its beautiful building and interesting collections; and others were welcomed by Mr. Neff at the library of the Western Reserve Historical Society.

The evening's session was held in the parlors of the Hollenden. It was entirely informal, being simply a social reception for the renewal of old and the formation of new acquaintance, and it began as a sprinkling, increased to a crowd, and ended in a multitude. The three parlors in which the reception was held were also used for the library exhibit, which was the largest displayed at any previous A. L. A. meeting, excepting, of course, the World's Fair exhibit. It consisted of examples of L. B. Sneed, Stikeman, Westervelt, and other shelving; the "model libraries" of Charles Scribner's Sons; the cabinets, publications, and library appliances of the Library Bureau; representative collections of the publications and importations of Appleton, Putnam, McClurg, Stechert, Lemcke & Buechner, the LIBRARY

JOURNAL, and other publishers; a travelling library, with its fittings, blanks, and samples, from the New York State Library; an interesting collection of souvenirs of previous meetings, specimens of library blanks, mounted pictures from other libraries, etc., etc. A reception committee welcomed the members, who were then requested to register their names on a beautifully engrossed parchment record for the library of the Western Reserve Historical Society, the ceremony being presided over by Mr. Neff, the librarian of the society. Light refreshments were served, and from nine o'clock till midnight the rooms were crowded with members, eager to meet old friends, to make new ones, and to talk "shop" without end.

SECOND DAY.

The session of Wednesday morning was the real beginning of the Conference. It was held in the hall of the Chamber of Commerce, and was opened at nine a.m. by President Dana, who briefly greeted the association and then proceeded to deliver his address.

Mr. Dana had chosen for his subject "The other side," and he presented with terse directness the arguments *contra* the public library and the ways in which they could be met. There are few libraries that are not open to some of the charges set against them. The purposeless pettiness of the great mass of popular reading, the lack of aim or effort in many of the frequenters of the public library, the triviality of much of its educational work, are all counts in the indictment. So too are the facts that the library relieves the idle and incompetent from the necessity of going to work to earn money for books, that it checks the tendency toward book-collecting, and that it tends to lead parents to become indifferent to their children's reading, "just as the free public school may lead them to be indifferent to their formal education." It is well to know the case against the library, that more effort may be made to justify the library calling, and to make the library itself of more use in the world. To do this, the librarian must realize that the library is good only as he makes it so, that he himself is of no importance in his community by virtue of his office alone, and that he had best divest himself of all the trappings of self-satisfaction and awaken to a sense of sins of omission, of things undone or ill done. Let the librarian, then, who would make the charges of the other side void and of no effect look first to his own personal growth and beware of the narrowing effects of too much books; let him be social; let him be outspoken on subjects of library management; let him support, work with, and advertise the A. L. A.; let him get in touch with the library section of the N. E. A. and enlist the teachers in the service of the library; let him win the support of the local book and news dealer, and encourage the ownership of books; let him interest in his library local book-lovers, students, scholars, and men of affairs; let him recognize and aid in all ways possible the clubs, associations, and societies of his town, clergymen, editors, and even the Sunday-school libra-

ries; let him make his own library part of the life of his community, and let him also be quick to recognize his fellow-workers, and to extend all aid and support to other libraries. An appreciation of these methods and those that will branch out and develop from them is essential if the library profession is to reach its true standard of usefulness and the library to be an effective educational machine.

Mr. J. N. Larned, of the Buffalo Library, followed with a paper on "Prospect and retrospect in the closing years of the century." This was beyond question the event of the Conference, and it was a fitting sequel to President Larned's address at the Lake Placid meeting two years before.

The paper was, in substance, an attempt to forecast the judgment which philosophical historians of the future will pronounce upon this closing period of the present century. Briefly outlined, their conclusion, Mr. Larned thought, would be this: that the dominant processes of civilization in modern times are such as tend steadily to what might be called a widening of life, in the two directions of knowledge and of material condition, without an equivalent spiritual deepening, and that within the last half century we have experienced a prodigious acceleration of those processes, with a peculiarly shallow and flattened culture as its inevitable result. The widening of life for the modern man appeared first and most importantly on the lines of trade; and until recent times trade carried much more than commodities to and fro. Ideas, institutions, customs, languages, manners, knowledge of all sorts, were in the cargoes which went and came between strange countries and peoples. The merchant was invested with a high and grave dignity, as a teacher, an explorer, and a hero of bold adventure. But to-day there is sheer nakedness for the mercenary motives of trade, and it has been vulgarized by the rapid change which steam and electricity have brought about. The same causes, of quick and easy communication, have suddenly converted the democracy of free countries from a theoretical state of society, which it was until our own day, into a positive and practical reality. For the first time in human history, public opinion has become an actually controlling, continuous force in wide arenas of government. It is eating like an acid into the old political parties, and throughout society it is dissolving the ancient stabilities, preparing, no doubt, the organic conditions on which Nature in all her working appears to depend for the evolution of life. But our lot is cast in the transition stage, at which we lose the fixities that were, before the coming of the harmonies that will be. In another direction still we are equally unfortunate. The press, which brought to human life the greatest widening of all, has become a vulgarizing power of frightful menace. The newspaper, which ought to be the most potent of all agencies of education—and which, as such, ought to be endowed as colleges are endowed—is commonly the busy pander to low tastes and a shallow curiosity. The irrespon-

sible reporter has superseded the responsible editor in most of the journalism of the day, becoming the teacher of his generation and the presiding genius of our civilization, infecting all literature and art with his own flippancy. But this is not the end of the story. The mind of the age is being trained to alertness, even by its worst journalism and its fiercest commerce, and faculties are being awakened that will some day answer the call to higher uses. At the same time, the altruistic spirit, which resists and restrains the mercenary, is more and more abroad. There is an enterprise in education as well as in industrial affairs. Invention, which used to be busy with machines alone, is now turning to schools and libraries. For the past 20 or 30 years, one set of people has been working on the free school and the free library; just as another set of people has been working on the steam-engine and the electric dynamo, to discover their capabilities and develop their powers. Hope for the future depends more upon them than upon any other agencies that work for the deepening of the currents of life.

The paper was listened to with intense interest; it set before the Conference a lofty standard, and its earnestness and depth of purpose awakened a responsive enthusiasm.

The Association was then cordially greeted by Mr. Utley, who tendered an invitation to Detroit for a part of the post-conference trip.

"The new Congressional Library building" was the subject of an interesting paper by Bernard R. Green, in charge of the construction of that building. It was illustrated by a large wall plan and by blue-print views, which were handed about among the audience. Mr. Green traced the history of the library from its organization, and described the various efforts made to obtain the new building. The need was set forth by Mr. Spofford in his report for 1872, but it was not until 1886 that the first act was passed, in which no limit as to time and no directions as to method of construction were included. This act was modified and improved, and in October, 1888, Gen. Casey took charge of the work and pushed it vigorously forward. The building covers three and three-quarter acres, and will be absolutely completed next winter, all the work except the decoration and final touches being now done. Mr. Green described in detail the plan of the building, the method of lighting, stack, delivery, and reference arrangements, and the general method in which it is proposed to arrange the books.

F. A. Crandall, Superintendent of documents, followed with an address on "Public documents and the proposed new public documents bill," which was, he said, "an informal report of the first year's doings of the public document office." During the 12 months from July 1, 1895, to June 30, 1896, a total of about 490,000 publications were received and handled by the department, and 189,463 volumes were distributed, of which 171,186 were sent to depository and other libraries. The methods and regulations as to the distribution of publications were set forth fully by Mr. Crandall, who also

described the various catalogs, required by the law of 1895. These comprise (1) the annual catalog of public documents, or "comprehensive index," as it is called in the law, which catalogs all documents of the 53d Congress and up to the close of the fiscal year 1895; (2) the "consolidated index," which will take the place of the various and varied so-called indexes that have since the 30th Congress appeared in the front of the volumes of Congressional documents, and will be practically a finding list of Congressional documents only; and (3) the monthly catalog of public documents, of which 18 numbers, aggregating 702 pages, had been issued to the close of the fiscal year. He believed that the department would succeed in producing a catalog that should be intelligible not only to librarians, but to the general public, and that the indexes and catalogs provided for would be found more convenient and available than any previous work of the kind on public documents. The provisions of the new bill to improve the printing and binding of public documents were briefly outlined; it was prepared "to establish by law a few broad general principles, recognized by librarians and publishers as sound, and to which no publishing bureau would have much difficulty in conforming." In support of the bill letters were received from librarians of 26 states, and it commanded the general support of all parties interested. Although another lobbying campaign will be necessary, there is little doubt of the passage of the bill at the next session.

Mr. Bowker then announced that as the report of the public documents committee related to the subjects treated by both Mr. Green and Mr. Crandall, he would present it as a fitting sequence to their remarks, instead of in the place assigned in the program. As the report had been duly printed in the "Preliminary papers," it was not read, but simply presented to the Association; but the resolutions appended to the report were read over and presented for action. Four resolutions: (1) approving the supplementary public documents bill; (2) extending the thanks of the Association to Hon. George D. Perkins, of Iowa, for his efforts in behalf of the bill; (3) approving the separate organization of the Copyright office, as distinct from the Library of Congress; and (4) voicing the regret of the Association that politics should still at times prevail in library affairs, were unanimously carried. A resolution was also presented authorizing the appointment of a committee of seven to represent the A. L. A. in relation to the organization of the national library in its new building. This was opposed by Dr. Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution, and was laid over till the afternoon session.

The afternoon session opened at 2:30 in the Army and Navy Hall, nearly opposite the Hollenden Hotel, where seats in plenty were found for the 300 or more persons present. The first business taken up was the resolution previously offered by Mr. Bowker as to appointing an A. L. A. committee to confer with the House and Senate committee on library as to the or-

ganization of the Congressional Library. Mr. Bowker spoke briefly in support and explanation of the resolution. He was followed by Dr. Adler, who opposed it on the ground that no definite reorganization of the library had been or was to be planned and that action had better be deferred until the committee on library should apply to the A. L. A. for definite consultation or advice. On motion of Mr. Jones the matter was laid on the table.

Mr. George Iles then read a paper on "The appraisal of literature," in which he explained his scheme for the critical "evaluation" of books, presented in part at the Lakewood (1892) conference, and practically illustrated in the "List of books for girls and women" published last year. He compared the modern library to the old-fashioned museum, where specimens were displayed without full and clear descriptive labels. Such labels he would have adopted in libraries, in the form of brief critical notes, emanating from authoritative knowledge, appended to the author or subject entry on the card catalog. He announced that the annotated list of books on "Music," contributed by H. E. Krehbiel to the "List of books for girls and women" would be issued this winter, enlarged to 270 titles, and that Mr. Sturgis's list of books on Fine arts would be similarly issued, expanded to 550 titles. This work of literary appraisal could hardly be carried on without a subsidy, and contributions in its aid would be gladly received, but offers of time, money, or manuscript should be fully subject to the direction of an A. L. A. editorial committee, which, it was hoped, might carry on the work in partnership with some leading publisher.

Commenting on Mr. Iles's paper, Mr. S. S. Green said that in the Essex Institute the specimens displayed bore labels referring to the books in the public library for fuller information. Miss West asked if the copyright on the "List of books for girls and women" would interfere with the use on catalog cards of the notes there given. Mr. Iles replied that such use might be freely made and he would be very glad if the "List" should prove helpful in that way.

The report of the executive board was then read by Secretary Elmendorf, who presented the resolutions adopted at the board meeting on Sept. 1. In regard to the library handbook known as the "A. L. A. Primer," it was resolved that it be published in book form to contain matter equivalent to, but not exceeding, 24 pages, LIBRARY JOURNAL size, that it be revised by a committee to be appointed by the incoming executive board, be published by the Publishing Section, and be called "A library primer." These resolutions were adopted and an additional one suggesting a list price of 25 c. and an edition of 1000 copies for free distribution was also adopted as a recommendation to the executive board. The subject of the European post-conference trip of 1897 was then presented in a resolution accepting the invitation of the L. A. U. K. to attend an international meeting in July, 1897. Mr. Bowker moved that the reso-

lution be amended, deferring action until a meeting of those intending to go abroad could be had; but, after some discussion, it was decided that the secretary should cable a message of acceptance to Mr. MacAlister, of the L. A. U. K., and further details be referred to a committee to be appointed by the executive board.

The treasurer's report, as printed in the preliminary papers, was presented by Mr. Anderson, with a supplement to Sept. 1, accepted, and referred to the finance committee for audit. It showed expenditures of \$897.42 and a balance in the treasury of \$1558.14. During the year 121 new members were added to the list, 20 resigned, and 512 had paid dues. The necrology included three members: Miss Bessie Ruthford Macky, of the library department of Drexel Institute, Miss Jessie Allan, of the Omaha Public Library, and Robert C. Woodward, of the Springfield (Ohio) Free [Warder] Library.

The report on gifts and bequests was next presented, but as it had been printed in the "Preliminary papers" Miss Hewins simply noted additions and corrections that she had been unable to include in the printed paper. The report covered two years and showed that within the period June, 1894, to June, 1896, nearly \$2,500,000 in money have been given to libraries, library buildings worth nearly \$1,000,000 have been erected, and more than 100,000 volumes have been added to libraries by gifts and bequests.

Mr. Larned announced that the report of the committee on library schools had already been presented to the Association in the pages of the preliminary papers, and that there was nothing to add. The report, as printed, was an interesting review of the plan and course of study carried on, respectively, at the New York State Library, Pratt, Armour, and Drexel institutes, and the summer courses at Albany, Amherst, and Madison, Wis. Of all the schools it was reported that the past year had been the most satisfactory, "giving encouragement in all of them to larger undertakings and plans of future work."

The report of the Publishing Section was read by Mr. Lane, who gave a full and most interesting summary of the work accomplished during the year, and the many plans for the future. The most important change contemplated is the abandonment of the feature of annual membership subscriptions to the section and the organization of the Publishing Section as a board of five members, appointed by the association, "to secure the preparation and publication of such catalogs, indexes, and other bibliographies and library aids as it may approve." Among the plans to be considered by the section is the publication of an index to portraits, compiled by Bunford Samuel, of the Ridgway Library, of Philadelphia, the editorial preparation of the printed catalog cards, transferred from the Library Bureau to the office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, and the publication of the "Lists of select fiction" which the Massachusetts Library Club will cease issuing when the 12 numbers are completed. These,

it is hoped, may be continued by other library clubs, in sequence. Since the previous report the section has issued the "List of books for girls and women," compiled by George Hes and Mrs. A. H. Leypoldt, and the "A. L. A. List of subject headings." A supplement to Sargent's "Reading for the young," by Mary E. and Abby L. Sargent, is now in press and will be published for the section by the Library Bureau, at 75 c. and \$1 per copy.

The report of the Co-operation committee, as printed in the "Preliminary papers," was presented by Mr. Tillinghast and accepted. It outlined the history of the committee, now in its 20th year of service, and rehearsed the good the A. L. A. had effected in the three phases of co-operative work which the library field permits — neighborhood, general, and international co-operation. Under the first head comes mutual help and intercourse between individual libraries, by the exchange of duplicates, the prevention of mutual duplication, the lending and borrowing of books, etc. The second phase is illustrated by co-operative work useful to all libraries, such as Poole's Index and its continuations, the A. L. A. Index, the A. L. A. Catalog, the "List of books for girls and women," and the other work of the Publishing Section, the Massachusetts Library Club lists, etc. The third method of co-operation — the international — has found illustration in the recent conference held in London under the auspices of the Royal Society, to arrange a plan for the publication of a general international catalog of current scientific literature. (See L. J., August, p. 370.)

A paper on "The congress of women librarians at Atlanta," by Miss Alice M. Kroeger, was next on the program, but in Miss Kroeger's absence it was omitted, and after a few announcements as to local arrangements the meeting adjourned.

Wednesday evening was devoted to a reception tendered to the A. L. A. by the Rowfant Club, and held in the old-fashioned clubhouse on Prospect street. The rooms were attractively decorated with flowers, refreshments were served, and until midnight the club-house was thronged with interested librarians, meeting new and old friends and examining the club's many treasures of books, etchings, and candlesticks. The club takes its name from the country-seat of the late Frederic Locker Lampson, who is its patron saint, and its object is "the critical study of books in their various capacities to please the mind of man, and the publication from time to time of privately printed editions for its members." Its emblems are the American gopher and the candlestick, and it possesses a varied and interesting candlestick collection, ranging from tiny bronze or silver holders to great six-foot columns for pillars of wax. The annual meeting of the club is held on Candlemas day, when each member adds a candlestick to the array which now ranges from roof to attic of the club-house.

THIRD DAY.

The first matter taken up at the session of Thursday morning was the announcement of the committee on the European trip. It was composed of Miss M. S. Cutler, Miss M. W. Plummer, S. S. Green, W. C. Lane, and W. I. Fletcher, and all who hoped or expected to join the party were asked to meet after the morning's session. A modified resolution on the Congressional Library, drawn by Mr. Putnam, of Boston, was submitted. It provided that should the Senate and House committee on library desire the advice of the A. L. A. in regard to the national library, the president of the Association be empowered to appoint a committee to confer on that subject. This resolution was reported as satisfactory to both Mr. Bowker and Dr. Adler, and was promptly adopted.

Mr. Thomson, of Philadelphia, then presented his paper on "Travelling libraries," a subject to which he has given much attention, and which the Free Library of Philadelphia is promoting especially in relation to library development in the city field. Most of the travelling library work has heretofore been done in New York, Wisconsin, and elsewhere in the scattered rural communities; but there is no reason why it should not find equal scope for usefulness in the manufacturing or tenement districts of the larger cities. The states in which the travelling-library system in some form is recognized by law are New York, Michigan, Montana, Minnesota, and Iowa; in Wisconsin most effective work has been done by the State Library Commission through the generous aid of Senator J. H. Stout; in Massachusetts a series of small travelling libraries was started in 1895 in connection with the Woman's Education Association of Boston, and in Pennsylvania an effort is to be made at the next legislative meeting to obtain an appropriation for the development of the system throughout the state. There was brief discussion of Mr. Thomson's paper by F. A. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin State Library Commission, who described the libraries of 50 books sent out to the rural districts of Wisconsin; Miss Ambrose, of Northwestern University Library; Mrs. Cope, of the Iowa State Library; and Senator Stout, who thought a state commission was first necessary to secure the most effective and systematic work.

Mr. Crunden presented a report on the Poole memorial fund. The committee in charge of that fund desire to obtain, as the most suitable memorial, a bronze bust of Dr. Poole, with appropriate pedestal; this will cost about \$500, of which but \$150 had so far been subscribed. All desiring to contribute to the fund were urged to do so before the close of the Conference. Mr. Fletcher and Miss Ahern spoke briefly of Dr. Poole's services to and claims upon the library profession.

"Exhibitions of engravings and pictures" was the subject of short ten-minute talks by Mr. Cutter, of Northampton, and Mr. Green, of Worcester. At Northampton exhibitions of

the Sella collection of Alpine photographs had proved most interesting; these were obtained from the Appalachian Club, of Boston, which was glad to arrange for exhibitions wherever desired. Local amateurs, also, were usually pleased to exhibit collections of photographs, and by such arrangement it had been found possible to have interesting exhibits of views of Kimberley, Siam, and other out-of-the-way corners of the world. Those members of the A. L. A. who brought kodaks on the post-conference trips might, on their return, arrange for their libraries public exhibitions of the photographs made. At Worcester Mr. Green had displayed photographic and other collections for many years, and in his new building the upper story was arranged to be thrown into an art gallery when desired; about \$1000 a year is spent there on collections of photographs, engravings, and fine illustrated books, and the exhibitions have included, besides these, displays of Sevres china, representations of the textile fabrics in the South Kensington Museum, illustrations of the history of architecture, of modern English, French, and Spanish art, etc. The hints and suggestions offered by both Mr. Cutter and Mr. Green were as practical as they were interesting; but there was no time for discussion, as the joint meeting of the A. L. A. and the Trustees Section was next in order.

The Trustees Section meeting had been looked forward to a little apprehensively, as likely to be dull. On the contrary, it was one of the most interesting meetings of the Conference, and its results cannot fail to be helpful in many libraries. It was not until 1890 that any special effort was made to insure the attendance of trustees at the A. L. A. gatherings; then circulars were sent out and the Trustees Section formed, but it had been more or less dormant since the Lakewood Conference. For the present Conference vigorous efforts were made to get trustees to attend, and the results were most gratifying. In the list of delegates 16 trustees were recorded as present, but this was undoubtedly considerably below the real number. Mr. Crunden presided during the section meeting, which he opened with a practical, clear-headed, and entertaining paper on the relation of the librarian to the trustees, speaking from the librarian's point of view. The conclusion of this paper was the signal for general discussion of the various details of a trustee's duty in regard to library and librarian. Dr. Hosmer, of Minneapolis, who introduced himself as a bibliographical pupil of Mr. Crunden's, who had evolved from the grub condition of a trustee into the beautiful librarian butterfly, raised the question of the advisability of having women on the board of trustees. This seemed generally approved and frequently practised, though Miss Kelso proved that there might be too much of a good thing, when she cited the case of a librarian of her acquaintance, whose library of 150 volumes was directed by a board of 60 "lady trustees." Among the trustees who took part in the discussion were Col. Thomson, of the Evanston (Ill.) Free Library; Rutherford P. Hayes, of Columbus, O.;

Mr. Garfield, of Mentor, O., who described the organization of the Mentor Library; Mrs. H. M. Weeks, of the Winnetka (Ill.) Public Library; Mr. Soule, of Brookline; Mr. Johnson, of the Newark (N. J.) Public Library; and Mr. Macbeth, of the Pittsburgh Carnegie Library. Mr. Crunden read suggestive letters on several phases of the subject that he had received from trustees and others interested, and the joint meeting adjourned after the adoption of a resolution recommending the publication and distribution among trustees of Mr. Crunden's paper, with the letters received by him on the subject and an abstract of the meeting.

Thursday afternoon was to have been given up to a trolley-ride about the city, under charge of the local committee, but lowering skies and an intermittent drizzle boded ill for an outing, so the trolley party was deferred until Friday afternoon, and at 2 p.m. on Thursday the members assembled again in Army and Navy Hall, prepared to catch up on the left-over papers of Thursday morning, and pass on to the Friday morning section of the program. When the meeting was called to order Miss Kelso offered a resolution, which was at once adopted, that the A. L. A. present to the Rowfant Club an A. L. A. candlestick, to be added to the club collection, in appreciation of the warm welcome and hospitalities accorded to the association by the club.

Miss Stearns, of Milwaukee, then presented the subject of "Advertising a library" in one of the notable papers of the Conference. Taking as her motto the phrase "Advertising is business bait," she showed the many effective ways in which a library can draw readers within its doors by advertisements, book-lists, library items and notes in the local newspapers, special lists on current topics for general distribution, library placards for hotels, depots, and public places, the use of posters in delivery and periodical rooms, library talks before schools, clubs, and local associations. The paper was illustrated by examples of library lists, placards, and posters from Denver, Gloversville, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Grand Rapids, Milwaukee, and elsewhere, mounted and hung about the platform, and the speaker's enthusiasm in her subject could hardly fail to awaken a responsive interest in the mind of even the most conservative "sufficient-unto-the-day-is-the-circulation-thereof" librarian.

The next paper in order was on "Library editions of popular fiction," by Mr. Dudley, of Denver. In Mr. Dudley's absence this was, perforce, passed over, but the subject was presented by the president for discussion, and a resolution was adopted ordering the executive board to appoint a committee to investigate the matter. Mr. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Library Commission, had had much trouble with poorly bound books that fall to pieces when handled, and he warned librarians against buying from bargain counters. He had succeeded in obtaining from Houghton, Mifflin & Co. a special library edition of "The Birds' Christmas Carol," and he had hopes of procuring a similar edition of "Betty Leicester." Mr. Peck said a word

in praise of the bindings of Houghton, Mifflin & Co., and Mr. Eastman spoke in condemnation of the cheap editions of the department stores.

The "Do's" collected from librarians all over the country were next presented by Miss Chandler, of Buffalo. These were, in a measure, a sequel to the "Don'ts" of the Lake Placid conference; and they proved a capital feature of the meeting. It was interesting testimony to the breadth and variety of library interests that these two collections should so seldom duplicate each other, and should cover so many phases of the same subject so interestingly and so variously. The list of things to "do" ranged from technical details of cataloging to general ethical advice, and abounded with helpful suggestions.

Next, according to the program, was a period "devoted especially to matters of interest to young and inexperienced librarians." Mr. Fletcher, who was called upon to preside, perhaps described it better as a "library circus," of which he was ringmaster. The performers assembled on the platform and presented the subjects assigned to them in due order, holding themselves ready to answer any questions that might be asked. Mr. Cutter first gave a few minutes' talk on "Library furniture, fixtures, and appliances," in which he emphasized the need of freedom and ease in library administration, and spoke of the charging system devised by Miss Browne, of the Library Bureau, and of the Rudolph Indexer books. Miss Hewins, of Hartford, followed on the subject of "Old and new books—what to buy," urging the claims of the older books, as well as of the "latest literature." Miss James, of Wilkes-Barré, spoke on "Reading-rooms and periodicals," and explained the principles that guided her in her selection of periodicals and magazines. The question of the advisability of including "comic" papers was raised, and the consensus of opinion seemed to be rather against *Puck* and *Judge*, though *Life* was generally admitted. Mr. Fletcher described his methods of "Accessioning, classifying, and cataloging" clearly and briefly. Mr. Green spoke on "Reference books and reference work," and Miss Garland, of Dover, set forth pithily and wittily the essentials of "The librarian's annual report." Mr. Hill's contribution on "Preparing books for issue, and charging systems," was, in his absence, postponed till Friday.

The report of the finance committee was then presented by Mr. Whitney and accepted, and the meeting adjourned until 8 p.m.

The session of Thursday evening was thoroughly novel. For three hours, from eight till 11, the books listed in the A. L. A. Catalog supplement were the subject of animated *pro* and *con* discussion by the members. This *viva voce* criticism of individual books was a new feature in an A. L. A. program, having its inception in the preliminary discussion of the proposed supplement at the last (Lake George) session of the Lake Placid conference. The idea was developed by Miss Cutler, with a view to giving an object-lesson in criticism and selec-

tion of books, which might prove suggestive, especially to young librarians, and the result justified her expectations. Miss Cutler presented the report of the committee on A. L. A. Catalog supplement, and briefly outlined the procedure of the evening. The subject was then introduced by Mr. Cutter, and different persons were called upon to present, for discussion, different divisions of the catalog. Each member was provided with a copy of the advance sheets of the supplement and was urged to bring forward for criticism any desired book in the classes considered. Science was one of the first divisions taken up, and here Mr. Montgomery, of Philadelphia, played the part of "devil's advocate" on the books listed. "Popular" works on science, as Flammarion's "Popular astronomy," were concisely criticised and their shortcomings set forth, and book after book was subjected to a lively cross-fire of analysis and criticism. Sociology was under charge of Mr. Crunden, and Mr. Jones was arbiter on Useful arts. Especially interesting was the department of "History," where, under Mr. Thwaites's energetic generalship, the historical literature of the past five years was brought forth for judgment by merit. Jameson's "Dictionary of U. S. history" and Fiske's "History of the U. S. for schools" were weighed and found wanting, and Mrs. Latimer's summaries of 19th century history hardly escaped. Miss Hewins was the fitting champion of children's books, and she made a delightful plea for Gertrude Smith's "Arabella and Araminta stories," which she thought well suited for the very small folks. Among the books she approved were Baldwin's "Horse fair," the "Jungle books," Kirk Munroe's stories, and the Henty books. Henty was for a time the centre of a vigorous cross-fire, but he emerged unscathed. Indeed the subject of children's books roused suggestive discussion between those who found the usual juvenile literature desirable and those who would give to children only the best books of the world. Fiction, under Mr. Larned's direction, naturally offered a wide arena for diverging views, and there was no lack of entertainment as the notable novels of the period were brought forward for judgment. First to meet her fate was "A lady of quality," who, though she found some special pleaders, was on a show of hands relegated to the darkest of library limbos. "Theron Ware," too, found an adverse majority, with Mr. Wing as special prosecutor, despite a ringing plea in his behalf by Mr. Jones, of Salem, and Morrison's "Tales of mean streets" had hardly a favoring vote. It is impossible in a brief abstract to give an adequate idea of the novelty, interest, and animation that characterized this session; certainly it reflected much credit on Miss Cutler and those of the catalog committee who were responsible for it. It was after 11 when the meeting adjourned. In a few minutes the hall was cleared for dancing, and the members, who had had much more than a solid "eight hours for work," prepared themselves for an hour or so of frivolity, to serve as a fitting "nightcap" to a busy day.

FOURTH DAY.

Friday morning's session opened with an undiminished attendance. The first matter presented was a resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to investigate the present system of travelling libraries and report on its possible extension. It was adopted. President Dana then briefly alluded to the proposition to establish an American libraries' clearing-house, set forth by Adolf Hepner, of St. Louis, in the September issue of *Public Libraries*. A resolution was adopted authorizing the executive board to appoint a committee of three to investigate and report on the matter.

Mr. Burtch, of the library department of A. C. McClurg & Co., read a paper on "The relation of the bookseller to the librarian." It was almost wholly from the point of view of the bookseller, and urged the advantage that would accrue to the trade by the more general adoption of library methods of accessioning, cataloging, and arranging stock. On the conclusion of the paper a resolution was adopted authorizing the executive board to appoint a committee to consider measures for bringing booksellers more into touch with library methods.

A resolution was adopted providing for the continuation of the committee on A. L. A. Catalog supplement.

Mr. Hill was then called on to present his paper on "Preparing books for issue, and charging systems." He said that the one chief object of all charging systems was to relieve the borrower of all possible trouble and delay, and described the methods in use at the New-ark Library. There was a short discussion of various systems and on the different ways of recording and collecting fines.

Then occurred what was probably the most significant incident of the Conference. The question of open shelves was raised, in connection with Mr. Hill's paper, and a vote on the subject was asked for. There were present probably 300 members—the average attendance at every session. First, all those having open shelves or allowing as far as possible free access to books, other than reference, were asked to rise, the vote being limited, of course, to but one person from each library. The count showed a total of 65. Second, all present who approved of free access and who would have open shelves in their libraries were it practicable to do so, were asked to rise; and in a moment it seemed as if the entire assembly rose as one man. No count was necessary. Third, all those who were unwilling to allow free access and disapproved of open shelves were requested to rise; 12 only were counted. Such an expression of opinion as this vote showed would have been unobtainable even three years ago, and nothing in the Conference was more characteristic of the constantly broadening tendency of library methods.

A report of the committee on the European trip was then presented by Mr. Lane. It was voted that an enrolment fee of \$5 be paid in advance by all desiring to join the party, said fee to

be non-returnable and to constitute an expense fund; any balance remaining in the fund at the close of the trip to be paid into the endowment fund of the Association. It was also voted that only members of the A. L. A. and members of their families should be enrolled, except by unanimous vote of the European trip committee.

Dr. Cyrus Adler, of the Smithsonian Institution, then presented a paper on "Fifty years of progress," reviewing the history of the Smithsonian Institution and the work accomplished by it since its organization in 1846 to the present time. As the jubilee anniversary of the Smithsonian Institution occurred on August 10, 1896, Dr. Adler's paper was especially timely, and his summary of what had been done in the cause of science in a single institution during that half century was most interesting. He spoke particularly of the part played by the Smithsonian Institution in library development, and paid an earnest tribute to its first librarian, Charles Coffin Jewett, one of the pioneers in the American library field, who in 1841 published one of the first pamphlets on charging methods. During the 50 years of its existence the Smithsonian has published 225 volumes, with a total of 800,000 pages on matters connected with science. By means of the system of exchange, which was devised and perfected largely through its efforts, its publications have gone broadcast to the libraries of this and foreign countries, and the value of the volumes distributed by it in this way is estimated at \$1,000,000, or almost twice the original gift of James Smithson.

At the close of Dr. Adler's paper, invitations to the A. L. A. to hold the meeting of 1898 in Atlanta, Ga., and in New York City, were presented by Mr. Nelson, while Mr. Dana presented invitations for the same year from Lincoln, Neb., Indianapolis, and Montreal.

Mr. Crunden then presented a report of the committee on resolutions, extending the thanks of the A. L. A. "to the Rowfant Club for its unique entertainment; to Mr. Charles F. Olney for his hospitable welcome to his art gallery; to the local committee of arrangements for careful forethought, efficient service, and numerous courtesies; and to the Cleveland newspapers for the full and accurate reports of the proceedings which they have given in their columns." It was carried. On motion of Mr. Carr a resolution was passed acknowledging the indebtedness of the library profession to Mr. W. H. Brett for his "Cumulative index to periodicals," which promised to be so important and helpful an addition to library tools.

It was then announced that the balloting for officers would be conducted on the Australian plan as the members left the hall, and the meeting was declared adjourned. It was, however, succeeded by a photographic session in the doorway of the hall, where the party was photographed by F. R. Stoll, in the group reproduced as frontispiece to this issue.

Meetings of the various sections and library

Copies of this photograph may be had at \$1 each, by applying to F. R. Stoll, photographer, 106 Euclid avenue, Cleveland, O.

associations followed. Of the latter Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin were represented, and held satisfactory sessions.

Friday afternoon was devoted to the trolley-ride. Cars were in waiting at the Public Square, and under the efficient guidance of the local committee the members spent the time from 2 to 6 in whirling through the many fine streets and avenues of the Forest City, visiting Western Reserve University, where the new Hatch library was inspected and admired, being personally conducted by cordial hosts through the Woodland Avenue and Miles Park branches of the Cleveland Public Library, and passing a pleasant hour in the art gallery of Mr. C. F. Olney.

The annual dinner was the event of Friday night. It was preceded by a general reception in the parlors of the Hollenden, and it was not until nearly nine o'clock that the members seated themselves in the large dining-hall of the Hollenden at tables which were beautiful with masses of cut flowers and potted plants.

The post-prandial period was opened with the announcement of the result of the morning's election. The officers of the A. L. A. for 1896-7 were given as follows: *President*, W. H. Brett; *Secretary*, Rutherford P. Hayes; *Treasurer*, George Watson Cole; *Vice-presidents*, H. L. Elmendorf, James K. Hosmer, Hannah P. James; *A. L. A. Council*, Mary W. Plummer, Henry J. Carr, S. S. Green, Melvil Dewey; *Trustee of Endowment Fund*, J. C. Hutchins.

Judge Hutchins, of Cleveland, presiding at the dinner, then presented to Mr. Brett, on behalf of his friends and well-wishers in Cleveland, a beautiful basket of roses. The time for speech-making was necessarily brief, as the post-conference party was obliged to leave by 11:30, and but three speakers were called upon — Dr. Thwing, president of Western Reserve University, Mr. Thwaites, and Rev. Dr. Sprecker, of Cleveland. There were then but a few minutes for hasty farewells, and by midnight the Conference was separated into two parties, those whose A. L. A. outing was over and those bound for the steamer and the post-conference.

POST-CONFERENCE.

Of the post-conference trip it is impossible, within present limits, to speak adequately. Only the briefest outline of the itinerary can be given, and for a fuller account reference must be made to the printed proceedings. Leaving Cleveland at midnight on Friday, the party reached Detroit for breakfast. Here they spent part of the morning examining the public library, where they found a most cordial welcome. At 11 o'clock carriages and busses were in readiness at the library, and a triumphal procession set forth for a two hours' drive through wide well-paved streets, lined with attractive homes and rendered beautiful by an abundance of trees, past the business and residence districts, out to Belle Isle, the most delightful of island parks. The drive around the park terminated at the Casino, where lunch was waiting; but it did not wait long. Then came the trip, on foot or by carriage, to the

wharf, where the steamer bore the crowd across Lake St. Clair, through the Flats — Miss Litchfield's "Little Venice" — to the Grande Pointe Club-house, where they were made right welcome. After dinner, speech-making — the left-overs, it was said, of Friday night — and dancing whiled away the time till the *City of Mackinaw* blew a warning whistle at 2:30 a.m. and the post-conferenees hastened aboard and abed. Sunday on the steamer was a delight to those for whom the ocean wave had no terrors, and even the many who succumbed to the "whitecaps" of Saginaw Bay were on deck again by evening, pale but smiling and ready to go ashore at Alpena and "do" the town. Monday morning the greater number of the party remained on board to breakfast and visited St. Ignace, returning to Mackinaw at 8:30. Then after removing an upper layer of dust and thinking, perhaps, of rest, they separated into groups and couples to explore the island, by driving, walking, rowing, or cycling, as seemed best to each. Some went on at once to the "Soo," returning in time for Tuesday's final session, others took the trip to Les Cheneaux, barbarized into "the Snows," others still went by steamer to St. Ignace and then around the island; but to all Tuesday night came all too soon, and it was with regret at the morrow's departure that the party gathered in the parlors of the Grand Hotel, to attend the last session of the Conference.

This was fittingly devoted to "The story of Mackinaw," told by R. G. Thwaites, of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and his graphic narrative made the Jesuit "black-robe," the long-haired *voyageur*, and the enterprising fur-trader very real figures on the minds of the modern librarians invading and exploring their ancient haunts. The actual history of the island hardly begins until 1779, when Patrick Sinclair built there for his Majesty King George the old fort, which still stands and which was the scene of hostilities in the war of 1812. Captured by the British in a bloodless attack, July 17, 1812, it was restored to the United States by the treaty of Ghent, and remained the military stronghold of the district until the present year, when it was abandoned by the government and taken under the control of the state of Michigan as part of the state park. Mr. Thwaites's paper, in its incisiveness and accuracy of statement, cleared away much of the confusion that seems inseparable from the history of Mackinac, and made British landing, Fort Holmes, Fort Mackinac, the mission church, and the other guide-book landmarks places to be remembered for historic association as well as for beauties of sky, sea, and land.

Despite the cloud of approaching departure, the session was literally closed in sweetness. Miss Ahern, in a few appropriate words, presented to the retiring president an offering on behalf of the Association, which it was hoped might in a measure dispel the gloom that had seemed to mark him for its own from the first sentence of his opening address. It was a five-

pound box of Huyler's bonbons, and it may faithfully be recorded that it proved an effectual, if temporary, gloom-dispeller.

After the passage of a resolution expressing the hearty appreciation of the Association for the delightful reception accorded them at Detroit, the 18th conference of the American Library Association was declared adjourned.

A few words on the Conference as a whole may not be out of place. It has been said that the average attendance at the sessions was not less than 300. The official register showed a total attendance of 369 delegates, and the treasurer's report showed that the membership register of the association and the cash balance on hand were the largest in the history of the A. L. A. In point of attendance the Cleveland Conference ranks as the most successful ever held. There was no diminution of interest or of numbers observable at the sessions, and when it is seen — as this abstract attempts to show — how closely packed with business were the three days at Cleveland, this fact is a striking illustration of the energy and enthusiasm that librarians claim as distinguishing their profession. The post-conference trip was taken by about 80 persons, some of whom returned before the final session of September 8, a showing that compares well with that of previous years.

The Conference was a busy one — almost too busy for bodily comfort; but it was thoroughly successful, and those who felt its influence for good can say heartily and earnestly that time and strength were well spent in obtaining help and inspiration for the future. H. E. H.

Library Association of the United Kingdom.

THE 19th annual meeting of the L. A. U. K. was held this year at Buxton, Eng., from Sept. 1-3. The meeting, which was largely attended, was opened on Tuesday morning, Sept. 1, by Mr. F. T. Barrett, who announced the election to the office of president of Alderman Henry Rawson, ex-chairman of the Manchester Public Libraries. President Rawson then took the chair. The program included papers on "The relation of public libraries to other educational institutions," "Days vs. issues, or reading as measured by time," the Dewey classification, notes on library legislation and municipal control of village libraries, and articles of specific bibliographical and antiquarian interest. The sessions were interesting and helpful and the meeting-place — a quiet and pleasant health resort — was an agreeable innovation on the usual custom of meeting in large and busy centres.

Full notes of the program and proceedings of the convention are not available as the JOURNAL goes to press, and the detailed report of the meeting is deferred until the October number.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE class in library economy in the Amherst Summer School, under the direction of W. I. Fletcher, the college librarian, closed its sixth annual session on August 8. The class numbered 36, most of the pupils being already engaged in library work. Despite the severe heat of July, which was oppressive even in delightful Amherst, the class worked on with unabated zeal and enthusiasm and with most satisfactory results. Following are the names of the members:

Mrs. Ella Bartholomew, Amherst, Mass.
 Prof. W. Bernhardt, Washington, D. C.
 W. S. Booth, New York City.
 Charlotte W. Briant, North Chelmsford, Mass.
 Mary E. Brown, Manchester, N. H.
 Margaret A. Bull, Orange, N. J.
 Jean W. Colesberry, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Louise Cook, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Genevieve S. Cooley, Amherst, Mass.
 Gertrude Crockett, New York City.
 Mary L. Dyer, Annapolis, Md.
 Abbie J. Fielden, Amesbury, Mass.
 Elizabeth S. French, Boston, "
 Isabel M. French, "
 Minnie E. Gibson, Youngstown, Ohio.
 Grace L. Hemenway, Waltham, Mass.
 Bessie A. Holt, Georgetown, "
 Hattie L. Johnson, Berlin, N. H.
 Hettie Joseph, Allegheny, Pa.
 Elizabeth Knapp, Sewickley, Pa.
 Mary E. Lane, Barre, Mass.
 Laura N. Mann, Washington, D. C.
 Franklin O. Poole, Somerville, Mass.
 Annie Prescott, Auburn Maine.
 Gracella Prince, Springfield O.
 Morris Salem, New York City.
 Augusta A. Sherman, Rockland, Me.
 Nellie F. Squier, Monson, Mass.
 Helen Sutliff, Lawrence, Kansas.
 Kate V. N. Talmage, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 L. J. Tompkins, New York City.
 Ethelyn D. M. Tucker, Lee, Mass.
 M. Hortense Webster, Easthampton, Mass.
 Harry S. Wedding, Crawfordsville, Ind.
 Annie R. White, Lexington, Va.
 Haidee Williamson, New York City.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

SUMMER SESSION.

List of Students.

Louise Leffingwell Bartlett, St. Johnsbury, Vt.
 Librarian St. Johnsbury Athenæum.
 Helen M. Biodgett, Yonkers, N. Y.
 Librarian Yonkers Public Library.
 Amalie Busck, New York City.
 Librarian New York State Pathological Institute, New York city.
 Emma Kirkland Clark, Peekskill, N. Y.
 Vassar College, 1874-75.
 Librarian Elmira College, Elmira, N. Y.

Belle Corwin, New York City.
 M.D. New York Medical College, 1891.
 General Assistant New York University Library.
 Jeannette Craven, Albany, N. Y.
 Assistant Sacred Heart Academy Library, Albany, N. Y.
 Alice Twiss Cummings, Hartford, Ct.
 Cataloger Hartford Public Library.
 Luella Clara Dowler, Jamestown, N. Y.
 First Assistant James Prendergast Free Library, Jamestown, N. Y.
 Mrs. Katherine Josepha Dowling, Rochester, N. Y.
 Librarian Central Library, Rochester, N. Y.
 Mary Eugenia Goodrich, New Britain, Ct.
 Librarian New Britain State Normal School Library.
 Leonora Epes Herron, Hampton, Va.
 B.A. Boston University, 1888.
 Librarian Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute.
 Anna Addams MacDonald, State College, Pa.
 Assistant Pennsylvania State College Library, State College, Pa.
 Anna Douglas McNeill, Albany, N. Y.
 Anna Battelle Miller, New York City.
 Assistant St. Agnes Free Library, New York City.
 Elmore Marsden Montfort, Marietta, Ohio.
 Hanover (Ind.) College.
 B.A. Marietta College, 1890.
 Librarian Marietta College.
 Margaret Farrington Newell, St. Johnsbury, Vt.
 Smith College, 1889-90.
 Librarian Talcott Library, Northfield (Mass.) Seminary.
 Sarah Bass Nichols, Calais, Me.
 Librarian Free Library, Calais, Me.
 George Edward Nutting, Fitchburg, Mass.
 First Assistant Fitchburg Public Library.
 Marie Onuf, New York City.
 Archivist New York State Pathological Institute, New York City.
 Clara Edith Staude, Troy, N. Y.
 Librarian Children's Neighborhood Library, Troy, N. Y.
 Elizabeth Day Swan, La Fayette, Ind.
 Iowa College, Grinnell, Ia., 1881-85.
 Librarian Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.
 Ella Sites Wood, Lancaster, Mass.
 Librarian Town Library, Lancaster, Mass.

WISCONSIN SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE second session of the Wisconsin Summer School of Library Science was made possible by the continued generosity of Senator J. H. Stout, of Menomonie, Wis. It was held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, from July 6 to August 14, under Miss Katharine L. Sharp, of Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, as director. Instruction in cataloging was given by Miss Margaret Mann, cataloger of Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, with Miss Alice S. Tyler, of the Cleveland (O.) Public

Library, and Miss Mary J. Calkins, of Chicago, as assistants.

The class numbered 25 persons from nine different states, only four of these students being without library experience.

The following schedule was carried out:

SCHEDULE.

Note-taking	1 lesson.
Accession and order.	7 lessons.
Shelf	3 "
Loan	2 "
Binding	1 lesson and 2 visits.
Repair	1 lesson.
Reference	13 lessons and 2 problems.
Library economy and history	10 lessons.
Cutter classification..	12 "
Dewey classification.	12 "
Cataloging	20 "

Visits and addresses were made by Hon. J. H. Stout, Menomonie, Wis.; F. A. Hutchins, president Wisconsin Free Library Commission; Miss Theresa West, librarian Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library; Miss L. E. Stearns, secretary Wisconsin Free Library Commission; Reuben G. Thwaites, secretary Wisconsin Historical Society.

KATHARINE L. SHARP, *Director.*

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

PINNEY, Alice E. Free town vs. district school libraries. (*In American Agriculturist*, Middle edition, Sept. 5. 58: 210.) 1½ col.

A plea for the co-operation of rural districts in founding free town libraries. It shows the wastefulness of the district school library plan. "In rural districts where there is the greatest need of the principle of co-operation, it is the least practised."

LOCAL.

Albany (N. Y.) F. L. Added 400; total 3094. Issued, home use 10,200; lib. use 1800. Receipts \$831.79. During the year the building fund was increased from \$1480 to \$2030.

Braddock, Pa. Carnegie F. L. Added 1615; total 11,577. Issued 51,952 (fict., 78.3%); ref. use 14,476; visitors to reading-rooms, estimated, 18,000.

Books on technical and practical scientific subjects are needed, as are more juveniles and books for supplementary reading in the schools.

Centerville (Ia.) Reading-Room Assoc. Early in July the association received from J. C. Phillips, of Seymour, Ia., the promise of a gift of \$1000 as a library fund, provided an equal sum was raised by local subscription. Since then, through vigorous efforts, about \$600 have been raised, and it is thought that the full amount will be secured before fall.

Chatham, Mass. Eldredge L. The library has been presented with a trust fund of \$5000 in

4 per cent. government bonds, by Hon. Marcellus Eldredge and H. Fisher Eldredge, of Portsmouth, N. H. The former has also presented the directors with a five-year paid-up insurance policy on the property of \$17,500. The town has transferred to the new building all funds and books held by the former town library.

Connecticut P. L. Committee. The work accomplished by the state library committee in 1895 is set forth in "Connecticut school document," no. 11, 1896, which is entitled "Public libraries." During that year 12 towns have established free public libraries and received the state grant of books; in 10 towns an existing library was given or loaned to and became part of the town library; and seven towns have received a first annual grant of books, under the provisions of the acts of 1895. There are now 59 towns in the state which possess no library, as against 71 in the report for 1893-94. The pamphlet includes full directions for towns desiring to establish libraries, and gives the usual full tabulated statistics of Connecticut libraries for 1894-95. These are followed by the reports of the libraries of Durham, Plainville, Putnam, Seymour, Suffield, Union, and Wethersfield, which have been established under the act of 1893. "Connecticut school document," no. 8, 1896, is a "Circular relating to public libraries," containing the law of 1893, the library act of 1895, full directions for the establishment of a town library, with list of towns possessing libraries, and some of the reports given in document no. 11.

Council Bluffs (Ia.) F. P. L. (15th rpt.) Added 1293; total 20,243. Issued, home use 76,705, an increase of 7087 over the previous year. New registration 652; total card-holders 6521. Receipts \$7437.55; expenses \$6038.

The trustees suggest lowering the age limit to 12 years.

Denver (Colo.) P. L. (Rpt., 1895-96.) Added 8310; total 31,149. Issued, home use 219,562 (fict., 391%); juv. fict., 203%; attendance at library (estimated, for 10 months) 361,926, as against 240,271 in 1895. No. of cards in use 12,931.

Mr. Dana's report is a most interesting and comprehensive statement of the aims and methods of the library, and gives many helpful suggestions in the line of work with the schools, access to shelves, guiding of children's reading, etc. The development of the library has been remarkable. In seven years it has increased from 1500 old and more or less worn volumes — a legacy of the old High School Library — to 31,000 v., or, including the collection of the Colorado Medical Society, 34,000 v.; 506 periodicals are taken. From the start access to the shelves has been permitted. "The result," says Mr. Dana, "has justified this plan. Few books have been stolen, few have been mutilated. Liberty has proved herself the mother of order." The rapid growth of the library has caused the need of more room to be seriously felt; for a year or more the seating capacity of the library has been overcrowded, and the

quarters are too narrow for good work at all times. "The reading-room patronage of the library was reduced, two years ago, by the changing of all reading-room space proper into a department for young people's books and an additional book-room; the chairs were removed at that time and stools substituted. The few newspapers on the subscription-list were dropped; the local daily papers were kept out of sight more rigorously than ever, lest they should attract visitors, and all illustrated journals, save the current numbers of each, were locked up. This practically meant that the whole library became a reference-room proper; though the magazine and journal list is still large, and attracts a good number of casual readers as well as students."

During the present year means will be taken to reduce still further the superficial use of the library. "To attract people to the library, to get them in the habit of using it, and to make them familiar, in a measure, with its resources, it was thought advisable, for the first few years, to be quite generous in the purchase of fiction. Authors were added to the list who are more worthy of attention because of their great popularity than because they have been approved by competent critics. It should be said, however, that the grade of books in this department in this library has always been markedly higher than it is in almost any other library of equal size and equal use in this country. In view of the library's limited quarters, and of the distinctly educational purpose had in view in its establishment and maintenance by the district, and of the fact that its extending popularity has for some time brought a severe strain on its resources, it is now thought desirable to cut down the list of fiction by dropping out all not distinctively 'standard.' This will be done gradually during the coming year. As the books no longer wanted are worn out they will be cut out of the lists and not replaced by new copies. A list of the library's fiction, as thus winnowed, will be published in the fall. The per cent. of fiction in the books lent for home use has decreased in the past two years from 62.2 to 59.4."

Mr. Dana also devotes considerable space to the history of the children's room, opened about two years since. Appended to the report are "Rules, suggestions, and hints," and the usual statistical tables.

Des Moines (Ia.) F. P. L. (5th rpt.—year ending July 1, '96.) Added 4490; total 19,690. Issued, home use 109,229 (fict. 52.14%; juv. 30.04%); ref. use 4780; lost 4. Visitors to library 119,473; new registration 1723.

The apparent inconsistency between the total volumes reported in the library according to this report and the same figures of the previous year's report is due to the fact that the present figures are the result of a definite inventory, the first one ever taken in the library, which naturally revealed the fact that the figures on the accession book did not exactly correspond with the number of volumes in the library. Miss McLoney recommends that hereafter an

inventory be taken from year to year. The circulation shows a gain of 15,351 over the previous year, and the reference statistics cover only books issued from the circulating department for reference purposes. The additions of new books during the year were the largest in the history of the library, and it is planned to materially increase, as far as possible, the library's resources. Miss McLoney gives an interesting and detailed description of the technical routine work of selecting, ordering, shelving, and cataloging books, and describes in detail the arrangement of the library in the new quarters to which it was removed in September, 1895. During the year a monthly bulletin of accessions, special lists, etc., has been published, and has proved popular. She urges the establishment of at least two delivery-stations during the present year. The report concludes with a comprehensive review of the history of the library since 1891; it is an interesting record of good work and increasing public usefulness.

Dixon (Ill.) P. L. During the three months the library has been open, 875 persons have registered as borrowers and 5247 v. have been issued for home use.

Elgin (Ill.) P. L. Added 1189; issued 125,874; visitors to ref. dept. 9422; Sunday attendance 5450. Receipts \$11,670.74; expenses \$6841.01.

Erie (Pa.) P. L. A meeting of trustees, to decide on the library plans, was held on Aug. 4, and the design submitted by Alden & Harlow, of Pittsburgh, was adopted by a vote of 13 to two. The adoption was subject to any future modification that might be required. The plans accepted call for a two-story and basement building costing about \$70,000, to be built of light pressed brick. The first story will have two entrances, both opening into a large delivery-room, which will extend from the first up through the second story and will be lighted from the glass roof in the daytime. On each side of the main entrance will be, respectively, a general reading-room and a children's reading-room. Opening from the delivery-room will be a periodical-room and toilet-rooms, a librarian's room, and a catalog-room. The stack-room will be at the south end of the building, and will have a capacity for 75,000 volumes. Opening from the delivery-room will be a stairway reaching to the second floor, and underneath will be another stairway to the basement. The stairway from the second entrance will be for the special use of the school board, enabling officers to enter their quarters without passing through the library, and for the accommodation of persons having business with them.

The second story will have a gallery running around the delivery-room, from which will open large rooms for the secretary of the school board and for the superintendent. Opening from the delivery gallery also will be four large rooms for collections; three additional rooms are intended for art gallery, historical collections, and a special reference-room.

The basement will be divided into a number of rooms, among which will be a mechanics' and apprentices' reading-room. It will contain storage accommodations and heating apparatus, either steam or hot water. The building will be lighted with electricity.

Fort Dodge (Ia.) F. P. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '96.) Added 707; total 7492. Issued, home use 18,399; lost 6. The circulation shows an increase of 2714 v. over the previous year.

The library has been rearranged and classified according to the Dewey system, under the superintendence of Mrs. Bertha G. Ridgeway, of the State University Library.

Grand Rapids, Mich. On August 17 the Free Travelling Library Association of Grand Rapids filed articles of association with the secretary of state.

Greenfield (Mass.) F. P. L. Added 940. Issued 36,337. Receipts \$1830.44; expenses \$1825.06.

Hartford (Ct.) P. L. (58th rpt. — year ending June 1, '96.) Added 6013; total about 52,000. Issued, home use 201,581 (fict. 122,654; juv. fict. 37,923). New registration 2295; total registration 11,272; visitors to reading-room 62,204. Receipts \$15,141.19; expenses \$15,242.52, leaving a net deficit of \$101.33.

The collection of music, begun in 1894, has proved so popular that "notable additions have been made during the past year to the music supply, which, being first suitably bound, is placed upon the shelves in the reference-room, where it is accessible to the many who enjoy its privileges. In 11 months the circulation of these volumes has been 1736, more than five times for each volume already upon the shelves. During last summer 143 volumes of Swedish books were cataloged, and later in the year 187 were added to our German novels, and 45 to our French ones. The result of this is that the circulation of books in other languages than English is double what it was two years ago. The library has lately sent an order to Copenhagen for about 100 volumes in Danish, and is also adding to its small collection of Italian books a number of interesting modern novels."

"One of the most interesting departments of the library's work has been in connection with the Social Settlement in North street. The branch is open for an hour every Tuesday evening under the charge of your librarian, and in 12 months 111 cards had been taken and 566 books given out. The children who take library books are usually from 10 to 15 years old, and most of them are in the North school. Their school training shows in their choice of books, for Longfellow's and Whittier's poems, Irving's 'Sketch book' and 'Rip Van Winkle,' Ruskin's 'King of the Golden River,' Baldwin's 'Story of Siegfried,' and Kipling's 'Jungle book,' have all been added to the library at the request of the children themselves. Several children have been graduated from the branch and admitted to full library

privileges, and those who still take books at the settlement are receiving more personal attention and teaching as to the care of books than is possible in a large library."

Jackson (Mich.) P. L. (11th rpt.) Added 1491; total 14,718; issued 81,442. Total registration 4015. "Perhaps during no year since the existence of the library has there been such a demand for fiction."

Jamestown, N. Y. James Prendergast F. L. (5th rpt. — year ending July 8, '96.) Added 483; total 10,527. Issued, home use 51,946 (fict. 50.87%; juv. 21.09%); visitors to ref. dept. 21,925.

"50.8 per cent. of fiction and 21 per cent. of juvenile fiction, a total of 71.8 per cent. of fiction, is not an unreasonable proportion, and is lower than in many communities. The reduction in the percentage of fiction is due not so much to any discouraging of novel-reading — for it should be remembered that the reading of good fiction deserves encouragement, since it is literature — as to the development of interest in other and more solid departments. The intelligent work of the teachers in constantly keeping before their pupils interesting books pertaining to their studies is a great aid in elevating the reading tastes. At the library every effort was made to direct attention to interesting reading. Lists were posted on the bulletin board on topics of the day, and personal attention was given those who desired assistance in the selection of home reading. In the reading-room on open shelves was kept a selection of books from the circulating department; this gave opportunity for those who did not know what they wished, to choose from the books themselves, instead of from the printed titles in the finding list. The keen enjoyment of the public in handling the volumes themselves and the greater opportunity for making a satisfactory choice fully compensated for the extra labor involved."

Joliet (Ill.) P. L. The local Business Men's Association has held a public meeting to discuss ways and means of providing a new library building. They propose that the city appropriate for the purpose \$40,000 in instalments of \$5000 each, which could be secured by a tax levy of $1\frac{4}{10}$ mills. A new building is badly needed, and one is desired which will provide a reference-room as well as delivery and reading rooms.

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. Work on the new library building is making good progress. The date set for completion is Jan. 1, 1897. The building, which will cost \$200,000, is built of light-colored Carthage stone; it is 104 x 140 feet in diameter, two stories high, and will have a book capacity of 250,000 v. The architects are W. F. Hackney and A. Van Brunt.

Long Island City (L. I.) P. L. The library was opened to the public on Monday, Aug. 3; it starts with about 5000 v. and a good supply of magazines and newspapers.

Millon-on-the-Hudson, N. Y. A pleasant and successful Japanese tea and curio exhibit was given on August 7 and 8, at the house of Miss Dorcas Hull, for the benefit of the Sarah H. Hallock Free Library. The library has the promise of a room in the new public hall now in the course of erection.

Montclair (N. J.) F. P. L. (3d rpt.) Added 1036; total 5163. Issued, home use 31,290 (fict. 82.8 %); reading-room attendance 4586. New registration 1358; total "live" cards in use 1983. Receipts \$3730.05; expenses \$3296.81.

The circulation shows an increase of 34 % in home use and 15 % in ref. use. During the year extra teachers' cards were issued for use in school work. A list is given of those books issued 40 times or more during the year; Miss Wilkin's "New England nun" leads with 90 issues. "The public has free access to the book-shelves at all times except during the crowded hours, when the cramped space necessitates some restrictions."

The president of the board of trustees says: "The most urgent need for enlarged quarters is felt by those who desire to use the reading-room and to consult the books of reference. The usefulness of the library is limited by insufficient space. A building for the exclusive use of the library has now become a necessity. The trustees have hoped that ere this some citizen would have volunteered to build an appropriate structure for the library; meanwhile, they have been working to secure a fund to be devoted to the erection of a building; about \$1500 has been accumulated and placed at interest and \$2500 has been pledged by four generous citizens; but a sum of about \$25,000 will be required to purchase a plot of land in a central location and to complete even a moderate-sized library. When this is an accomplished fact the full benefit of the library will be manifest."

New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations. The sub-committee appointed to prepare a draft of the Greater New York Charter have included a provision stating that "whenever the land now occupied by the reservoir at Fifth avenue and 40th and 42d streets shall be made a public park, and the reservoir shall be removed, the department of parks shall, in its discretion, enter into a contract with the New York Public Library — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations — for the use and occupation of the land, or of any part thereof, for establishing and maintaining a free public library and reading-room, and carrying out the objects and purposes of the corporation in accordance with the provisions of the agreement of consolidation between the trustees of the Astor Library, the trustees of the Lenox Library, and the Tilden Trust, and the several acts incorporating the said several corporations; such contract may provide that the use and occupation shall continue so long as the corporation or its successors shall maintain a free public library and reading-room upon that land."

New York. Washington Heights F. L. On Aug. 24 the corporate name of the library was legally changed from Washington Heights Library to Washington Heights Free Library.

Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L. (1st rpt.) Added 895; total 3888. Issued, home use 18,510. Receipts \$1711.44; expenses \$1900.90.

Ogden (Utah) P. L. The city council has recently appropriated \$25 a month toward the general support of the library. At the last directors' meeting library affairs were reported as in a prosperous condition; a number of new books have been lately added, and the two small rooms in the city hall are now entirely inadequate for the needs of reading-room and book-shelves.

PENNSYLVANIA TRAVELLING LS.; by John Thomson. (*In The Citizen*, August, p. 199-200.)

A description by the librarian of the Philadelphia Free Library of the system of travelling libraries inaugurated in Philadelphia, and described in the June L. J. (p. 277).

Pleasantville (N. Y.) L. A. The new library building, which is practically completed, is a frame structure, designed by J. W. Robinson, of New York City, and combines library, auditorium, and club-house. The first floor contains an auditorium, a library and reading-room combined, and a social room; in the basement are a bowling-alley, billiard-room, kitchen, and dressing-rooms. The building cost about \$7000, raised by subscription, and the library contains about 2000 v.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. On July 30 a special city election was held to determine whether or not the city should spend \$10,000 for a site for the Adriance Memorial Library, to be erected by the Adriance family. The appropriation was passed by a vote of 284 against 54.

Richmond (Ky.) P. L. A. On August 8 a public library association was organized, with a capital stock of \$1000; the new association is a reorganization of the local Library Association that has heretofore conducted the library on a subscription basis.

Rome, N. Y. Jarvis L. (Rpt.) Total 10,577. Issued 40,162.

The library opened July 15, 1895, with 9315 v., 2681 of which are held in trust for five years. The circulating books comprise only about half of the library. During the year the size of the reading-room has been doubled by the cutting of an opening between it and the adjoining room; an historical collection has been started, and a room on the second floor utilized for study clubs.

Roseville (Ill.) L. A. On August 15 the Roseville Library Association was incorporated for the purpose of "operating a free public library and reading-rooms."

Sacramento (Cal.) F. P. L. (17th rpt. — year ending July 31, '96.) Added 1293; total not given. Issued, home use 70,286 (fict. and juv. 71 %); lost 29. Reading-room attendance 48,687.

Receipts \$11,139.41; expenses \$8122.64. "The one thing we need now to make the library of greater value to the community is a reference-room."

Salem (Mass.) F. P. L. The library has received the medal and diploma awarded it at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, 1893, "for an ingenious adaptation of an old dwelling to library purposes, excellent administrative devices and arrangements to encourage the use of books by public-school pupils."

San Francisco (Cal.) Mercantile L. (43d rpt., for 1895.) Added 1758; total 70,257. Issued 42,461 (fict. 72.71 %). New membership 258; total membership 832. Receipts \$17,674.11; expenses \$12,465.33.

Sea Cliff (L. I.) P. L. Added 121; total 650. Issued, home use 2612. Receipts \$612.77; expenses \$566.57.

Sioux City (Ia.) P. L. Added 933; total 9678. Issued 41,600; lost 21. New registration 1074; expenses \$3123.50.

Somers, Ct. A site for the new library building has been selected and the plans prepared. It is hoped to have the building completed before spring.

Southport, Ct., Pequot L. (2d rpt.) Added 1664; total 8273. Issued, home use 13,806 (fict. 70 %, including juv. fict.; juv. 26 %). New cards issued 254; total registration 881. Reading-room attendance 16,655.

In October, 1895, teachers were given the privilege of drawing any number of books at a time, for school-room use. Two months later, non-fiction cards were introduced. These have improved the character of the circulation and diminished the rate per cent. of fiction.

Trenton, N. J. Efforts are being made to establish a public library, using as a nucleus the library of the local W. C. T. U., which it is hoped may be transferred to the city. The Union has recently been unable to support the library properly, and it has been forced to curtail expenses, hours of opening, and purchase of books. The library, while a fee has been charged for books drawn for home use, has been free for reference and reading.

Waterville (Me.) F. L. The library was opened to the public on Aug. 22. Mrs. M. D. Johnson is librarian.

Wisconsin travelling libraries. The travelling libraries established in several counties of the state are meeting with all the success which was prophesied for them. Dunn county has the largest number, 26 being established there through the efforts of Senator Stout, of Menomonie. 16 were first started and the demand was so great that 10 more were ordered. In this county nearly all of the libraries have been placed in the post-offices of the villages; this is especially desirable since every one goes to the post-office daily and attention is called to the books which they would not find otherwise. The Wood county travelling libraries, made possible by the gift of \$1000 for the purpose by

J. D. Witter, of Grand Rapids, are to be started immediately. Mr. Witter is willing to supplement his gift later, and this will make it possible to start there with at least 16 libraries.

At Chippewa Falls some difficulty was experienced in the undertaking, since under the library provisions there no expenditure is to be made except for the benefit of the city library. Through the effort, however, of Miss Maud H. Early, it is going to be possible to start a number of the libraries soon, the books coming as gifts through Miss Early's solicitation.

S. E. Lathrop, of Washburn, has placed a number of small libraries throughout the northern part of the state, locating them in the different pinery regions. The libraries are small ones, and the books are mostly gifts, coming in a number of cases from people in the east who have been interested in the work. Boxes of 50 and more books have arrived, and a dozen or more of the little libraries have been established through Mr. Lathrop's effort. Gifts from private libraries where duplicates are found, or gifts of one or two books from those interested in the undertaking, will give to a large number of others of the small north Wisconsin villages libraries whose educational influence is undoubted.

FOREIGN.

Canada libraries. Complete statistics of the libraries of Canada are being prepared by the statistical officer of the Dominion and will be published in the Year-book for 1897.

Halifax (N. S.) P. L. Total 22,646. Issued, home use 48,781; ref. use 2398. New registration 580; total registration 3008.

Gifts and Bequests.

Bellevue, Pa. According to the will of the late Mrs. Jane Bayne Teece, of Pittsburgh, the city of Bellevue is to receive, on the death of the sister of Mrs. Teece, a fine site and \$10,000, to be devoted to establishing a park and public library.

Oshkosh, Wis. Some time ago this city, by the death of Marshall Harris, or rather of his widow, to whom he left instructions to dispose of his estate, became the sole legatee to property and cash to the amount of \$60,000, to be used for the purposes of a public library, with the proviso that the city or citizens raise an additional amount to increase the sum total to \$100,000. Mrs. Harris died two or three years ago, and the income from the property, together with the rise in values, have made the sum of \$60,000 certain. Ex-Senator Sawyer, of Oshkosh, has now promised to give \$25,000 towards the \$100,000, thus leaving \$15,000 to be made up by public or private subscription. It is thought that this amount will be soon raised.

Oyster Bay, L. I. Andrew Carnegie recently offered to give \$1000 to this town for a free library on condition that \$6000 additional be raised for the purpose. Mr. George Beekman

has offered to give another \$1000, but it is doubtful if the remaining sum can be raised.

Pontiac, Mich. Hon Byron G. Stout bequeathes to the Ladies' Library Association of Pontiac, Mich., his life insurance, worth about \$5000, and a brick block on Main street valued at \$2500. In the testament he desires that the money be used in erecting a memorial library, the plans for the construction of which are specified in the will.

Librarians.

ASHBURNER, J. H., on August 6 resigned his position as librarian of the New Albany (Ind.) Public Library. He is succeeded by Walter G. Harrison, who has been assistant librarian for five years past.

BURROWS, Miss Alice, for 14 years assistant librarian of the Springfield (O.) Public [Ward-er] Library, has been elected librarian, succeeding the late Robert C. Woodward.

DODGE, Miss Virginia, of Oak Park, Ill., has been elected librarian of the newly organized City Library of Cedar Rapids, Ia. Miss Dodge is a graduate of the Armour Institute Library Class.

TURNER, Miss Minnie, has been appointed librarian of the East St. Louis (Mo.) Free Public Library, succeeding Thomas Nelson.

WOODRUFF, Edwin H., has resigned the librarianship of the Leland Stanford Jr. University to accept a professorship of law in the Cornell University Law School.

Cataloging and Classification.

BELFAST (*Irel.*) L. AND SOC. FOR PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE (Linen Hall Library). General catalogue; comp. by George Smith, librarian. Belfast, 1896. 356 p. O.

An excellent dictionary catalog, two columns to the page, clearly printed on white paper and well bound. It includes all books in the library to Dec. 31, 1895, excepting English novels. These are listed in a separate catalog, and are omitted from the present volume, save some which "occur in the complete works of authors, and some which have a local interest, as well as novels in foreign languages." No attempt to give specially full names has been made; titles are shortened whenever practicable, and the imprint includes number of volumes, size, place of publication (when other than London), date, and name of series. Analytical entries and contents of collected works are given quite fully. Authors' names are given in Clarendon type, subject headings in small caps, and contents in nonpareil.

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for August contains a 3-page "Index to lists of books on various topics to be found in the quarterly bulletins, vol. 1-14, 1867-1896."

The NEW BEDFORD (*Mass.*) F. P. L. *Bulletin* for August contains "reference list no. 12" on "The money question"; it includes periodical literature as well as books.

NOTTINGHAM (*Eng.*) F. P. REF. L. No. 20 class list: Hosiery, lace, needlework, etc. August, 1896. 16 p. D. 1d.

"This list has been published to supply a long-felt need of the staple trades of Nottingham. It should prove invaluable to lace designers especially, particular research having been made to obtain all information available as to the history of lace and the illustration of lace design." It includes books, magazine and encyclopædic articles, and is divided into three parts: 1. Works in the reference library; 2. Works in the lending library which may be referred to in the reference library; 3. Works in other libraries not available in the Nottingham public libraries.

The OSTERHOUT L. (*Wilkesbarre, Pa.*) *Newsletter* contains in its August issue a list of books and magazine articles bearing on the currency question.

OTIS L. (*Norwich, Ct.*) *Bulletin* concludes, in its August issue, the reference list on materials of Connecticut history begun in the July number.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for August contains an interesting reference list on "Solar and lunar eclipses," and two "Special catalogs" on Astronomy, and Labor and allied subjects.

SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. Class list, no. 2: History, Travel, Biography. Salem, April, 1896. 178 p. O. 10c.

The class list proper is prefaced by a table of contents and followed by an index to authors and an index to subjects. It includes all books on the subject in the library to April 1, 1896, listing about 10,600 v., and is a consolidation of the sections of the finding lists and bulletins covering the subjects treated. History and travel are arranged by country, subdivided according to periods, with minor political divisions when necessary. The list is a title-a-liner, two columns to the page, printed on manilla paper.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for August has special reading lists on Dickens, Scott, Thackeray, Labor and Socialism.

The SOMERVILLE (*Mass.*) P. L. *Bulletin* for September contains a special reading list on "The financial situation."

WORCESTER (*Mass.*) F. P. L. Second supplement to the catalogue (issued in 1884) of the circulating and a portion of the intermediate departments. Worcester, 1896. 940 p. O.

Includes accessions from June 1, 1889, to December 31, 1895; a representative and well-rounded collection. Like its predecessors, an admirable dictionary catalog, with contents of series and analytical entries. Well printed, well bound, and pleasant to handle.

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BONNANGE, F. *Projet d'un catalogue général unique et perpétuel des imprimés compris dans les bibliothèques nationales et les bibliothèques municipales: mémoire explicatif des moyens à employer pour accomplir ce grand œuvre, l'imprimer et le mettre au jour dès l'ouverture de l'Exposition universelle de 1900.* Corbeil, Drevet, 1896. 13 p. 8°.

CONGO. Wauters, A. J., and Bayl, A. *Bibliographie du Congo, 1880-1895: catalogue méthodique de 3800 ouvrages, brochures, notices et cartes relatifs à l'histoire, à la géographie et à la colonisation du Congo.* Brussels, Administration du Mouvement géographique, 1896. 8°. 7.50 fr.

DANCING. Desrat, G. *Dictionnaire de la danse: historique, théorique, pratique et bibliographique, depuis l'origine de la danse jusqu'à nos jours.* Paris, Libraires-imprimeries réunies, 1896. 8°, ll. 5.50 fr.

DANTE. Scartazzini, G. A. *Enciclopedia Dantesca: dizionario critico e ragionato di quanto concerne la vita e le opere di Dante Alighieri.* v. 1: A-L. Milan, Utr. Hoepli, 1896. 1169 p. D.

This is not a bibliography, but rather an exhaustive Dante concordance, or encyclopedic dictionary of all persons, places, events, and special words found in Dante's writings. It is a monument of painstaking devotion. The second volume, covering M-Z, is now in press, and will be published probably before 1898.

GAS AND WATER SUPPLY. Steude, A. *Die Literatur des Gas- und Wasserfaches: ein Verzeichnis von Büchern und Broschüren über Gasbeleuchtung und verwandte Beleuchtungsarten, sowie für Wasserversorgung, Entwässerung und verwandte Gebiete. Auf Anregung des deutschen Vereins von Gas- und Wasserfachmännern gesammelt.* Munich, R. Oldenbourg, 1896. 78 p. 8°. 2 m.

GUNS AND SHOOTING. E. G. Allen, of London, announces the forthcoming publication of a full "Bibliography of guns and shooting: being a list of ancient and modern English and foreign books relating to firearms and their use, and to the composition and manufacture of explosives," compiled and revised to date by Wirt-Gerrare, formerly editor of *The Gun-maker*. The editor will furnish an introductory chapter on technical books and their writers, firearms inventions, and the history of gunmaking, etc.

ITALY. Ottino, G., and Fumagalli, G. *Bibliotheca bibliographica italica: catalogo degli scritti di bibliologia, bibliografia e biblioteconomia pubblicati in Italia e di quelli riguardanti l'Italia pubblicati all'estero.* Premiato dal ministero della pubblica istruzione nel 1° concorso bibliografico. Primo supplemento annuale 1895, per cura di Gius. Ottino. Turin, Clausen, 1896. 45 p. 8°. 2.50 lire.

LANGLOIS, Ch. V. *Manuel de bibliographie historique. 1: instruments bibliographiques.* Paris, Hachette, 1896. 193 p. 8°.

LASTEVRIE, Rob. de, and Bougenot, E. S. *Bibliographie des travaux historiques et archéologiques publiés par les sociétés savantes de la France.* tome 3, livr. 1. Paris, Leroux, 1896. 4°. 4 fr.

STEVENSON, R. L. The September number of *The Bookman* contains an interesting "Bibliography of Robert Louis Stevenson," by Ernest Dressel North (p. 81-85).

INDEXES.

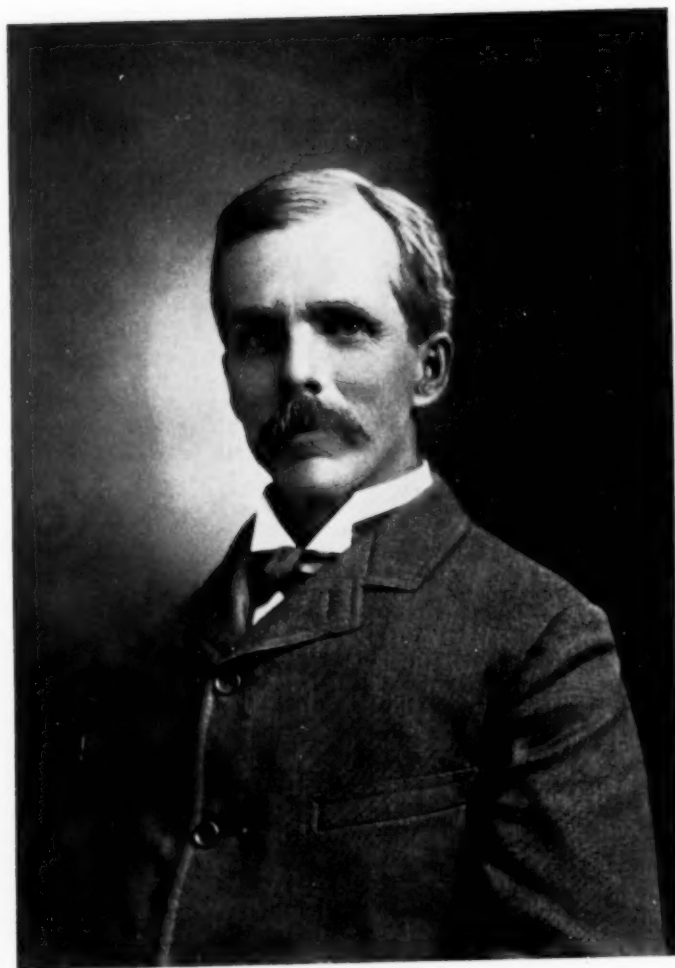
THE ENGINEERING INDEX, vol. 2, 1892-1896 (400 p., \$4), is published by D. Van Nostrand & Co., New York, and is a comprehensive and valuable guide to the varied engineering literature of the four years from Jan. 1, 1892, to Jan. 1, 1896. The material composing this volume has appeared in the monthly numbers of the *Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies* during the period, and has been prepared by technical experts, associated with the editor, J. B. Johnson. The object kept in view in the preparation of the notes has been to put in as small a space as possible such short descriptions of the scope and general character of the articles indexed as to enable one in search of information on a particular subject to decide whether or not it would be worth his while to obtain or consult the original article, paper, or report. Since the elaborate index published in the *Engineering Magazine* has contained the descriptive notes which made the index of the *Journal of the Association of Engineering Societies* valuable, the board of managers of that journal decided that it was no longer necessary for them to maintain this department, and they therefore discontinued the index on Jan. 1, 1896.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

Pritchard, Martin J.—"We understand that 'Martin J. Pritchard,' the author of . . . 'Without sin' [H. S. Stone & Co., 1896], is the daughter of Lady Monckton."—*The Bookman*, Sept.

"Dorothea" (Round-Robin Series) attributed in most catalogs which I have seen to C. H. Patchin, is now in the catalog of Houghton, Mifflin & Co. under Louise Stockton.—W. K. STETSON.





WILLIAM H. BRETT,
President American Library Association.